REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

IN THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES,

DURING THE YEAR

1876.

Published by Authority.

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Proceedings of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab, in the Home Department, No. 3162, dated 9th August 1877.

No. 861.

FROM

G. W. RIVAZ, ESQUIRE,

Officiating Registrar, Chief Court, Punjab.

To

LEPEL GRIFFIN, ESQUIRE,

Secretary to Government, Punjab.

Dated Lahore, the 13th April 1877.

SIR,

I am desired by the Judges of the Chief Court to submit the prescribed Annual Statements and Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice for the year 1876.

Receipt of divisional reports.

2. The Divisional Reports were received in this office on the dates noted below :—

Hissár, February 15th.	Deraját, March 5th.
Ráwalpindi, February 22nd.	Pesháwar, March 5th.
Mooltán, February 22nd.	Lahore, March 7th.
Umbálla, March 2nd.	Amritsar, March 20th.
Jullundur, March 2nd.	Delhi, April 2nd.

Arrangement of report.

3. The report is arranged on the model of those of the last two years, and briefly treats of the usual subjects in the following order :—

I.—Original Jurisdiction.

- A. General review of offences committed and brought to trial.
- B. Offences classified.
- C. Results of trials.
- D. Agency for disposal of Criminal work.
- E. Special Jurisdiction.
- F. Original work of Courts of Session.
- G. Witnesses.

II.—Appellate Jurisdiction of Sessions Courts and Magistrates.

III.—Punishments.

IV.—Preventive Jurisdiction.

V.—Procedure.

VI.—Chief Court Jurisdiction.

I.—ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

A.—GENERAL REVIEW OF OFFENCES COMMITTED AND BROUGHT TO TRIAL.

Offences reported and admitted to have occurred.

4. The following comparative table shows for the province the number of cases reported and struck off the register of offences on the application of the police, as well as the cases and persons brought to trial, during the past three years :—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nature of offences.	Year.	Offences reported.	Offences struck off the register.	Offences admitted to have occurred.	Cases brought to trial.	Persons brought to trial.
Non-bailable	1874	30,650	2,960	27,890	15,087	23,284
	1875	29,542	2,899	26,643	14,310	22,003
	1876	28,003	2,377	25,626	14,056	21,005
Bailable	1874	65,230	842	64,388	61,118	1,29,763
	1875	64,321	990	63,331	62,113	1,30,648
	1876	63,136	681	62,455	59,501	1,29,318
TOTAL ...	1874	96,080	3,802	92,278	76,205	1,53,047
	1875	93,863	3,889	89,974	76,423	1,52,651
	1876	91,139	3,058	88,081	73,557	1,50,323

It will be thus seen that there has been a satisfactory diminution both of non-bailable and bailable crime during the last three years.

Offences of all kinds admitted to have occurred during the year numbered 88,081, being 2·1 per cent less numerous than in the previous year, and 4·5 per cent less numerous than in the year 1874. The decrease is chiefly in non-bailable offences, which were 3·8 per cent less numerous in 1876 than in the previous year, and 7·7 per cent less numerous than in 1874. The per-centages of decrease for the same years in bailable offences are 1·3 and 3 respectively.

Offences brought to trial.

5. Of the offences admitted to have occurred, 83·4 per cent were brought to trial, as compared with 84·6 per cent last year. The fall in the general per-centage is entirely due to a smaller proportion of bailable offences having been brought to trial. During the year under report 95·1 per cent of the whole number of bailable offences reported were brought to trial, whereas in 1875 the proportion was 98·1 per cent. In non-bailable offences the per-centage has risen from 53·7 to 54·8.

Offences struck off the register.

6. Taking non-bailable and bailable offences together, the proportion of offences struck off from the register on the application of the police has fallen from 4 per cent to 3·3 per cent.

In non-bailable offences the per-centage has fallen from 9 to 8·4. It is highest in the following districts :—

Umballa	...	...	...	19·2
Bannu ...	...	...	...	18·2
Rohtak ...	...	...	...	16·1
Jullundur	...	...	...	15 3

The high per-centages in the Umballa and Bannu districts will be noticed in the next paragraph. In Rohtak and Jullundur every application for the removal of an offence from the register is said to have been carefully considered by the Magistrate of the District, and permission to have been given in no case until he had satisfied himself that there were good grounds for the application.

It is satisfactory to find that in Shahpur the proportion, which was noticed last year as unduly high, has fallen from 27 per cent to 13 per cent.

The per-centage of bailable offences struck off is 1·7 only. It must be remembered, however, that cases are very rarely, if ever, struck off except on the application of the police, and that the bulk of bailable cases are brought into Court without the interposition of the police.

Variation in non-bailable crime.

7. The decrease in non-bailable crime which has been noted above in para 4 extends to most districts of the province. It is most noticeable in the following :—

Bannu	...	...	...	43·0 per cent.
Umballa	...	...	...	29·8 „
Gujrát	...	...	...	27·4 „
Muzaffargarh	...	...	...	23·8 „
Dera Ghazi Khan		...	...	23·4 „

Decrease in Bannú.

8. The decrease in the Bannu district is as sudden as it is marked. From 1,411 reported cases in 1874, and 1274 in 1875, the number of non-bailable offences has dropped to 714 in 1876. No sufficient explanation is given either by the Commissioner or the Deputy Commissioner for this decrease, which is accompanied, as has been noticed above, by a large increase in the number of cases removed from the register as not having occurred. A further explanation has been asked for.

Decrease in Umballa.

9. In Umballa the decrease is also accompanied by a marked increase in the proportion of cases struck off on the application of the police, and an unduly high per-centage of cases brought to trial, as compared with offences reported. From the district returns it would appear that almost every single non-bailable offence which is admitted by the police to have occurred was brought to trial, the proportion last year having been 53 per cent. In commenting on this result the Commissioner remarks that he can only account for it by supposing, in the first place, that a considerable proportion of the less serious non-bailable offences committed during the year was never reported at all, and secondly, that many of the lighter crimes reported were never entered in the police registers. The Judges are unable to express an opinion in the matter without further information, which they have called for.

Decrease in Gujrat, Muzaffargarh and Dera Ghazi Khan.

10. The decrease in non-bailable offences in Gujrát, Muzaffargarh, and Dera Ghazi Khan is less remarkable ; it is attributed in each case, partly to improved administration, and partly to the year having been a favorable one as regards necessaries of life,

Increase in certain districts.

11. The only districts in which there has been any marked increase in non-bailable crime are the following :—

Kángra	..	...	...	49·3 per cent.
Gurdaspur	...	...	...	34·8 „
Mooltan	..	...	...	18·2 „

In Kángra a large decrease of 33 per cent was chronicled last year, and was attributed to the effect on the people of a serious and prolonged outbreak of cholera in the district. It would now appear that with returning health the criminal classes have reverted to their evil practices. The Commissioner, however, reports that special measures were during the course of the year successfully taken against the most prominent gangs, and that an improvement may be hoped for in next year's returns. The increase in Gurdaspur and Mooltan is ascribed, not to an actual increase in crime, but to the more faithful registration of offences. In last year's report a large decrease of non-bailable crime in Mooltan was commented on, and doubts were expressed as to whether the explanation, offered by the Deputy Commissioner, that it was due to the stringent supervision exercised over bad characters, and the severe punishments awarded to habitual offenders, sufficiently accounted for it. In admitting in this year's reports that these doubts were well founded, both Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner express an opinion that the present District Superintendent of Police is perhaps over rigid in his insistance on every non-bailable offence, however petty, which comes to notice, being entered in the police register. In this opinion the Judges are quite unable to concur. It appears to them to be the plain duty of the police to register and report for orders every cognizable offence which may come to their notice, and that it is for the Magistrate having jurisdiction then to decide whether any further action is necessary, with reference to the value of the property affected, or the wishes of the persons concerned.

Proportion of non-bailable offences to population.

12. The districts which show the largest number of non-bailable offences in proportion to the population are :—

Simla, per 1,000 of population	...	...	9·2
Mooltan	,,	...	...	3·7
Peshawur	,,	...	...	3·2
Gurdaspur	,,	...	...	2·4
Lahore	,,	...	...	2·1

Bailable offences.

13. Of the total number of bailable offences which are shown in the returns as having actually occurred, 34,721 are offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code, and 27,734 are offences under the Criminal Procedure Code and Local and Special Laws.

Offences of the former class were most prevalent in the districts of the Amritsar Division, which have been prominent in this respect for many years past, and in Ráwalpindi. In offences of the latter class the Lahore, Amritsar and Ráwalpindi districts stand first.

B.—OFFENCES CLASSIFIED.

14. Imperial Return No. 2, printed as an appendix to this report, gives a statement of offences reported and of the persons tried for each class of offence during the year.

The annexed comparative table shows the number of offences reported, and of persons brought to trial, under each chapter of the Indian Penal Code, during the years 1875 and 1876. Columns have been added to show the number and proportion of persons convicted.

In noticing such offences as may call for remark the order of the Imperial Return will be followed :—

Chapter and Subject	Number of offences reported during the year		Persons brought to trial during the year		Persons convicted during the year		Per-centage of persons convicted to those brought to trial	
	1875	1876	1875	1876	1875	1876	1875	1876
Chapter V —Concealing design to commit a non bailable offence	9	6	76	16	25	7	32 9	43 7
„ VII —Offences relating to the Army and Navy (137—140)	2	2	4	2	4	1	100 0	50 0
„ VIII —Offences against the public tranquility (143—160)	857	847	6,843	6,676	5,134	4,943	75 0	74 1
„ IX —Offences by or relating to public servants (161—171)	206	232	284	289	114	88	40 1	30 5
„ X —Contempts of the lawful authority of public servants (172—190)	1,555	1 476	8,101	2,830	1,953	1 660	62 9	58 7
„ XI —False evidence and offences against public justice (193—229)	1,044	1 046	1,734	1 728	1 084	928	62 6	53 8
„ XII —Offences relating to coin and Government stamps (264—267)	198	189	211	291	146	131	69 2	56 6
„ XIII —Offences relating to weights and measures (264—267)	79	124	108	176	77	108	71 3	61 4
„ XIV —Offences affecting the public health safety convenience decency and morals (268—294)	529	623	1,630	1 941	1 240	1,520	76 8	78 3
„ XV —Offences relating to religion (295—298)	107	95	233	204	193	40	44 2	79 2
„ XVI —Offences affecting the human body—								
1 —Offences affecting life (302—311)	807	692	1,292	1 008	751	677	58 1	66 2
2 —Miscarriage injuries to unborn children exposure of infants, concealment of birth (312—318)	96	88	121	130	72	76	58 5	58 5
3 —Of hurt (321—336)	4 625	3 583	8,875	7 814	4 135	3 484	46 6	47 7
4 —Wrongful restraint and confinement (341—348)	646	647	1,254	1 808	298	308	23 4	23 3
5 —Of criminal force and assault (352—358)	17 277	15 581	37 299	38 089	7 937	6,729	21 2	17 7
6 —Kidnapping forcible abduction slavery and forced labor (363—374)	262	279	357	736	99	93	27 7	27 7
7 —Rape (376)	191	187	124	116	44	53	35 5	45 7
8 —Of unnatural offences (377)	152	212	112	147	67	98	59 8	66 7
Chapter XVII —Offences against property—								
1 —Of theft (379—382)	19 484	13,201	11 034	10 887	8 017	8,117	72 7	74 6
2 —Of extortion (384—389)	133	209	243	330	22	46	9 0	13 6
3 —Of robbery and dacoity (392—402)	346	342	390	288	195	134	50 0	46 5
4 —Criminal misappropriation of property (403—404)	462	466	671	674	391	404	58 3	60 0
5 —Criminal breach of trust (406—409)	461	485	468	529	244	271	51 9	51 2
6 —Receiving stolen property (411—414)	3,094	2 895	3 877	3,492	2 477	2 098	61 3	60 0
7 —Cheating (417—420)	540	62	575	906	309	304	34 0	33 5
8 —Fraudulent deeds and dispositions of property (421—424)	95	28	88	31	7	10	18 5	32 3
9 —Mischief (426—440)	2 731	2 814	5 233	5,388	2,045	2 075	39 1	37 6
10 —Criminal trespass (447—462), chiefly house breaking	11 899	10 904	6,584	6 687	3 699	3 748	56 0	56 0
Chapter XVIII —Offences relating to documents and to trade and property marks (465—477)	120	141	218	262	59	85	27 0	32 4
1 —Of trade and property marks (482—492)	13	16	34	22	8	5	23 5	22 7
XIX —Criminal breach of contracts of service (490—492)	35	34	59	63	21	17	35 6	26 9
XX —Offences relating to marriage (493—498)	3,759	3,344	5,138	4 699	735	756	13 3	15 9
XXI —Of defamation (500—502)	171	201	315	365	54	62	16 8	17 0
XXII —Criminal intimidation insult and annoyance (504—510)	377	350	655	592	209	170	30 4	28 7
XXIII —Attempt to commit offences (511)	11	11	10	18	8	8	80 0	44 4

15 The total number of murders reported during the year was 311, as compared with 309 in 1875 and 308 in 1874.

Murders.

Of the 476 persons brought before Magistrates for these murders 69 per cent were committed for trial to Courts of Session. The proportion last year was 54 per cent. Murders were most prevalent in the following districts :—

District.	Number of cases reported	Persons discharged.	Persons committed for trial
Peshawar	75	36	61
Rawalpindi	24	4	35
Kohát	18	13	11
Umbálla	18	1	17
Jhelum	14	1	16
Dera Ismail Khán	13	7	9
Dera Ghazi Khán	13	15	8

The most satisfactory feature connected with this subject is the steady decrease which has taken place during the last five years in murders in frontier districts, especially in Peshawar. How marked this decrease has been the annexed table testifies :—

	1872.	1873.	1874	1875	1876.
Peshawar	110	97	79	83	75
Other Frontier districts	84	79	79	62	63
Total ...	194	176	158	145	138

The only frontier district which shows any important increase in murders during the year under report is Kohát, where the number has risen from 12 to 18. The increase is attributed by the Commissioner to the Pass complications which disturbed the district during the greater part of the year. Of the total number of murders reported 35·7 per cent are attributed to motives connected with women, as against 44·3 per cent last year. The per-centage is highest in the following districts :—

Jhelum	85·7
Dera Ghazi Khán	46·1
Rawalpindi	45·8
Peshawar	42·6

There were 4 murders by Thugs, all in the Gujránwála district. Further information has been called for regarding these cases.

Murders by robbers and dacoits have increased from 2 to 11.

Thirty-two murders were effected by means of poison, as compared with 29 in the previous year.

Attempt to commit murder.

16. Murderous assaults have decreased from 79 to 70. It is satisfactory to find that in the Peshawar district the number has fallen from 41 to 19.

Culpable homicide.

17. There is a decrease of 9·4 per cent in the number of reported cases of culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

Kidnapping and abduction

18. Offences of kidnapping and abduction continue prevalent in the Mooltán and Gurdáspur districts. One-fifth of the total number of offences reported under these heads occurred in these two districts alone.

Theft and receiving stolen property.

19. The annexed table shows for the last six years the number of ordinary thefts, cattle-thefts, and cases of receiving stolen property reported :—

Offences.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874	1875.	1876
Ordinary thefts, including abetments and attempts	11,179	10,987	10,521	10,651	10,078	10,257
Cattle thefts, do do.	6,043	5,936	5,510	3,902	3,381	2,215
Receiving stolen property	2,953	2,849	3,262	3,075	3,034	2,893
Total ..	20,175	19,772	19,293	17,623	16,493	15,365

As has been remarked in previous reports, it is necessary to group together cases of theft and receiving stolen property, as, unless an interval has elapsed between the theft and the discovery of the stolen property, it is difficult to distinguish between the thief and the receiver. It would be convenient to include also in the same group cases of house-trespass and house-breaking in which the object of the trespasser was to commit theft, but the classification of these offences has not been uniform during the term of years shown in the table, and an exact comparison therefore cannot be made at present. It may be noted here, however, that these offences also show a decrease.

The continued and steady decrease which has taken place in thefts, burglaries, and cases of receiving stolen property during late years is very satisfactory, and shows how successful have been the repressive measures which have been specially directed against this class of offences. The decrease is most marked in the case of cattle-thefts, which have diminished by 63 per cent during the six years. During the year under report there is a falling off in cattle-thefts in every district except Umballa, Mooltan and Kohat.

Mischief by fire.

20. The next class of offences which calls for remark is mischief by fire. Cases of serious mischief by fire have increased from 118 to 133, the increase being entirely due to a large increase of fires in the Kohat district.

Lurking house-trespass and house-breaking

21. There is a satisfactory decrease of 11 per cent in cases of lurking house-trespass and house-breaking. Of the 3,976 persons brought to trial 66·6 per cent were convicted. The per-centage was about the same last year.

Rioting.

22. To pass on to bailable offences, there is a slight increase of 23 in reported cases of rioting, mainly due to a large increase in the number of cases in the Rawalpindi and Bannu districts. In Rawalpindi the riots are said to have arisen in most cases from disputes about grazing or cultivation. The increase in Bannu is ascribed to excitement among the agricultural population consequent on the approaching close of settlement operations. Of the 4,867 persons brought before a Magistrate, 73·6 per cent were convicted or committed for trial.

False information with intent to injure and false charge

23. Prosecutions for giving false information with intent to injure and for making false charges have increased from 669 to 746, but the per-centage of convictions has fallen from 64 in 1875 to 56 in the year under report.

Offences relating to weights and measures.

24. Offences relating to weights and measures have increased from 79 to 124, the increase being most marked in the Gujranwála district, where, the Deputy Commissioner writes, the prevalence of this class of offences rendered special measures for its suppression necessary.

Hurt and assault

25. There is a decrease of 5·7 per cent in cases of simple hurt and common assault, but the number of persons brought to trial is nearly the same as last year. The per-centage of convictions has fallen from 26 to 21.

It is lowest in the following districts :—

Sialkót	...	...	8·7
Jullundur	...	...	10·5
Amritsar	...	...	10·9
Gujranwála	...	...	11·0

The highest per-centage of convictions in offences of this class was obtained in the districts noted below :—

Kohát	...	...	65·5
Dera Ghazi Khan		...	57·4

Wrongful restraint.

26. Of 890 persons brought to trial on charges of wrongful restraint, 20 per cent were convicted. The proportion was the same last year.

Cheating

27. Charges of cheating have increased from 545 to 622. Of the 906 persons who were tried for this offence during the year under report 33 per cent only were convicted. The proportion last year was 35 per cent.

Cattle poisoning.

28. There is a satisfactory decrease of 113 in cases of cattle poisoning. Out of 574 persons tried for this crime 47 per cent were convicted. This proportion compares favorably with those of former years.

Criminal trespass

29. Cases of criminal trespass have increased from 750 to 973. The increase is most marked in the Jullundur district, where the number of cases reported has risen from 93 to 144. The proportion of convictions in this district is 13 per cent only, the per-centage for the province being 32.

Simple house-trespass.

30. There is a slight increase in the number of cases of simple house-trespass reported. The per-centage of convictions has risen from 45 to 47.

Enticing away a married woman

31. Cases of enticing away married women have decreased from 3,444 to 3,112. Of 4,285 persons brought to trial, only 16 per cent were convicted, which is an advance of 1 per cent, however, on the proportion of the previous year.

In Amritsar, where the per-centage of convictions is as low as 10·4, the Deputy Commissioner states that one great reason why convictions are so seldom obtained, is because the object of prosecutors, is in many cases only to recover the missing wife, and when the wife is recovered they do not care to press the matter further.

Offences under the Criminal Procedure Code.

32. Offences under the Criminal Procedure Code will be noticed in Parts IV and V of this report.

Breach of Forest Laws.

33. The returns show a decrease of 4 per cent in offences under the Forest Laws, but the number of persons proceeded against is slightly in excess of that of the previous year. Of the 2,338 persons brought to trial during the year 84 per cent were convicted. It has been already explained in a separate correspondence that the apparently large increase in this class of offences, which attracted the attention of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in last year's Criminal Report, was in reality nominal, being due to a change of procedure in the Kangra district, where offences were tried in 1875 under the Forest Laws which had in previous years been tried under various sections of the Indian Penal Code. By far the greater number of cases in the year under review, as in 1875, are reported from the Kángra and Hazára districts.

Breach of Sanitary Laws.

34. There is a decrease of 7 per cent in prosecutions for breaches of the law connected with sanitation and nuisances.

Prosecutions under the Gaming Act.

35. 922 persons were prosecuted under the Gaming Act, as compared with 1,104 persons in the previous year. Seventy-six per-cent of the persons tried were convicted.

Convictions under the Track Law.

36. 112 persons were punished for breaches of the track law, as compared with 52 persons so punished in 1875. This law was most freely used in the Ludhiana and Gurdáspur districts.

Cases under Criminal Tribes Act.

37. Cases under the Criminal Tribes Act, of 1871, have increased from 65 in 1875 to 215 in the year under report.

Frontier Rules.

38. 567 cases were disposed of under the frontier rules. This subject will be noticed more particularly under the head of Procedure.

C.—RESULT OF TRIALS.

39. The general result of Criminal trials in the various tribunals of the province during the year is shown in Imperial Return No. 3.

Details of disposal.

40. Including 1,590 persons awaiting trial at the end of the previous year, there were 1,50,323 persons for trial during the year.

Of these 1,48,730 persons were disposed of as follows :—

Detail of disposal.	Number disposed of.	Proportion borne to total number disposed of.
Committed for trial	706	0·5
Convicted	77,836	52·3
Acquitted and discharged	70,005	47·1
Died, escaped or transferred	183	0·1

leaving 1,593 persons under trial at the close of the year.

Of the total number of persons brought to trial, 14·1 per cent were tried for non-bailable offences. The proportion in the previous year was 14·4 per cent and 15·2 per cent in the year 1874.

41. The results of trials in District Courts are summed up in the following table, which shows the proportion of convictions and commitments to persons tried, for each district of the province. Bailable offences have this year been sub-divided into offences tried under the Indian Penal Code and offences tried under Special and Local Laws :—

Results of trials in District Courts.

DISTRICTS.	Committed for and convicted of non-bailable offences.	Committed for and convicted of bailable offences under the I. P. C.	Committed for and convicted of bailable offences under Special and Local Laws and C. P. C.	Total per-cent committed and convicted for all offences.
Delhi	66	20	74	50
Gurgáon	66	41	52	49
Karnál	67	57	87	72
Hissár	65	34	86	56
Rohtak	66	52	72	61
Sirsa	70	44	78	61
Umbálla	66	35	77	57
Ludiánah	78	38	65	53
Simla	65	30	95	78
Jullundur	68	17	78	46
Hoshiárpur	69	25	59	39
Káugra	75	41	88	66
Amritsar	62	14	71	38
Gurdáspúr	69	19	46	31
Sialkot	69	12	75	30
Lahore	72	32	81	62
Gujranwála	76	20	84	36
Ferozepore	74	48	82	66
Ráwalpindi	74	46	79	61
Jhelum	73	44	84	60
Gujrát	72	26	45	36
Sháhpur	72	44	65	56
Mooltán	70	42	73	56
Jhang	69	35	73	56
Montgomery	72	39	69	56
Muzaffargarh	74	37	83	51
Dera Ismail Khán	72	52	83	68
Dera Ghazi Khán	63	61	76	65
Bannú	56	48	81	68
Pesháwar	58	51	80	67
Hazára	51	27	60	40
Kohát	50	68	55	60
Total ...	68	32	75	52

42. The general per-centage of convictions has fallen from 55 in 1875 to 52 in 1876, the decrease being 1 per cent in non-bailable and 3 per cent in bailable offences.

Proportion of convictions.

The per-centage in non-bailable offences is lowest in the districts of the Pesháwar Division and in Bannú.

In bailable offences tried under the Indian Penal Code the lowest per-centages of convictions are as usual found in the Amritsar Division and the Jullundur District. The best per-centages were obtained in Kohát (68), Dera Ghazi Khan (61), and Karnál (57.)

The high per-centage of convictions in bailable offences tried under special and local laws is only what might be expected in a class of offences made up for the most part of petty infringements of nuisance and sanitary laws, and cases under the Criminal Procedure Code disposed of by Magistrates in the exercise of their preventive jurisdiction.

Persons committed to Courts of Session.

43. Of the 740 persons committed to the Sessions for trial, 617 were for non-bailable and the remainder for bailable crimes.

Persons acquitted and discharged.

44. Of the 70,005 persons who are shown in the table annexed to para. 40 as acquitted and discharged, 17,824 were acquitted, and the rest were either discharged, or the complaints against them were dismissed, withdrawn or compounded.

Persons under trial at the end of the year.

45. Of the persons remaining under trial at the end of the year, 316 stood charged with non-bailable and 1,277 with bailable offences.

Average duration of cases

46. The average duration of cases disposed of in Magistrates' Courts (including cases under Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code) remains the same as in the two previous years, *viz.* 8 days.

The highest average durations are ;—16 days in Gurgáon, 15 days in Jhang, and 14 days in Hoshiárpur.

The high average in Gurgáon is said to be in a great measure due to delays in the Court of Mr. Peacock, Assistant Commissioner. No special reasons are assigned for the high averages in the Jhang and Hoshiárpur Courts.

Sirsa.	Dera Ismail Khan.
Simla	Dera Ghazi Khan.
Gujranwála.	Peshawar

In the marginally noted districts the average was under five days.

Pending cases.

47. The oldest case pending at the close of the year was in the Siálkot district, and dates from the 6th April 1876. It is explained that the case is pending the disposal of a Civil suit. The case has been called for by the Chief Court.

Proportion of persons tried for non-bailable offences to population.

48. The following table compares the number of persons tried during the years 1875 and 1876 for non-bailable offences with the population of each division :—

Divisions.	1875.	1876.
Derajat, per 1,000 of population ...	2 0	1·8
Mooltan do. „ .	1 8	1 8
Peshawar do. „ .	2 1	1 6
Lahore do. „ .	1 6	1 4
Umbálla do. „ .	1 0	1 2
Rawalpindi do „ .	1 2	1 1
Amritsar do. „ . .	1 0	1 1
Hissár do. „ .	1·2	1 0
Delhi do. „	1 1	1·0
Jullundur do. „ . .	0 6	0 7

The substantial decrease in non-bailable crime shown in the Peshâwar Division is very satisfactory. Non-bailable offences have increased only in the Amritsar, Umbálla and Jullundur Divisions; in each case the increase is but slight

D.—AGENCY FOR DISPOSAL OF CRIMINAL WORK.

49.—Imperial Return No. 3 shows the general result of original Criminal trials in the tribunals of various classes in the province.

Of the total number of cases for disposal during the year, 98·4 per cent were disposed of in District Courts, the remainder being disposed of by Courts of Session.

The annexed statement shows in detail the distribution of Criminal work among the several Courts of districts for the last three years. Cases disposed of by Deputy Commissioners under Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code are included :—

Courts.	Cases disposed of.			Per-centage.		
	1874.	1875.	1876.	1874.	1875.	1876.
Deputy Commissioner ...	4,688	4,184	3,657	6·1	5·5	5·0
Judicial Assistant ...	...	...	1,650	...	...	2·3
Assistant Commissioner ...	12,402	11,452	7,928	16·4	15·0	10·9
Extra Assistant Commissioner ...	17,299	18,282	18,893	22·9	24·1	26·0
Tahsildar ...	17,216	18,022	20,170	22·8	23·8	27·7
Naib Tahsildar ...	7,651	6,747	4,774	10·1	8·9	6·6
Cantonment Magistrate ...	4,366	5,345	4,590	5·8	7 0	6·3
Small Cause Court ...	100	91	12	0·1	0·1	0 02
Canal Officer ...	562	464	443	0·7	0·6	0·6
Customs Officer ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Forest Officer ...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Jail Officer ...	4	4	211	0·005	0·005	0·3
Boards of Honorary Magistrates ...	6,722	5,599	6,191	8·9	7·4	8·5
Jaghirdár Magistrates ...	2,633	2,471	1,424	3·4	3·3	1·9
Honorary Magistrates sitting alone ...	1,823	2,933	2,741	2·4	3·9	3·7

Increase in work performed by Tahsildars.

50. The most noticeable feature in the statement is the increase shown in the proportion of Criminal work performed by Tahsildars. The proportion disposed of by Assistant Commissioners and Extra Assistant Commissioners taken together is as nearly as possible the same in the three years, and the variations shown in the proportions performed by Deputy Commissioners and Tahsil agency, taken as a whole, though more marked are not very considerable; but the share disposed of by Tahsildars has gradually risen from 22·8 per cent in 1874 to 27·7 per cent in 1876.

In connection with this subject, which attracted the attention of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor in last year's report, it has already been explained in a separate correspondence that an increase in the proportion of Criminal work disposed of by Tahsildars is in the opinion of the Judges a natural result of the operation of the new Judicial Scheme, and that it does not appear to them undesirable that a considerable share of the less serious crime of a district

should be thus disposed of; provided that care is taken that only such classes of cases are left for disposal to officers as they can adequately deal with. The Judges will not repeat on the present occasion the grounds on which these conclusions were founded. They believe that the principle indicated above is carefully borne in mind by the majority of District Officers in distributing Criminal work. The monthly statements submitted to this office enable the Judges to at all events secure its proper observance in the case of persons previously convicted and habitual offenders.

In the following districts an apparently unduly large proportion of Criminal work was performed by Tahsildars :—

District.	*No. of cases disposed of.*	*Per-centage of total work disposed of.*
Kangrá	1327	61·6
Jhelum	1324	57·6
Hoshiárpur	1416	50·9

Judicial Assistants

51. Judicial Assistants disposed of 1,650 cases during the year. The districts which show the largest number of disposals by these officers are :—

Gujrát	...	...	...	326 cases
Shahpur	...	...	...	229 „

The Commissioner of Umballa notes that the proportion of Criminal work disposed of by Judicial Assistants in the Umballa and Ludhiána districts was not as large as it should have been, and the Commissioner of Jullundur expresses a similar opinion as regards the Hoshiárpur district.

Boards of Magistrates.

52. There has been an increase of 1·1 per cent in the Criminal work performed by Boards of Unpaid Magistrates. Divisional and District Officers continue to speak favourably of the work and popularity of these Boards, and to acknowledge the assistance they afford to the Administration by disposing of the bulk of the petty offences and misdemeanours of the cities within which they exercise their powers.

Honorary Magistrates.

Ludhiana, Amritsar, Hoshiarpur, Kangrá, Gurdáspur, Gujránwala, Ferozepore, Kohat

53. Honorary and Jagirdár Magistrates sitting alone gave valuable assistance to the paid magistracy in the districts noted in the margin.

54. Cases were distributed among the three classes of Magistrates as follows :—

Class.	*Nos of cases.*	*Per-centage.*
Magistrate 1st class	33,174	46·1
Magistrate 2nd class	28,291	39·3
Magistrate 3rd class	10,458	14·5

The above figures do not include cases disposed of by Deputy Commissioners under Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Of the total number of cases disposed of by Magistrates 27·2 per cent were disposed of by European and 72·7 per cent by Native agency.

Work performed by Dy. Commissioners.

55. The annexed statement shows the Criminal work disposed of by the Deputy Commissioner of each district during the year. A column is added for appeals, for the purpose of making the statement complete.

Districts.	Under his enhanced powers Section 36, Act X of 1872.	Under his Magisterial powers.	Under his Appellate powers
Delhi	25	29	169
Gurgáon	18	60	67
Karnál	17	33	33
Hissár	29	116	45
Rohtak	31	122	134
Sirsa	19	104	17
Umbálla	31	20	118
Ludiánah	10	27	99
Simla	4	8	...
Jullundur	...	20	87
Hoshiárpur	24	36	74
Kángra	13	44	41
Amritsar	44	138	126
Gurdáspur	30	70	115
Siálkot	37	28	88
Lahore	44	79	125
Gujránwála	...	148	81
Ferozepore	15	63	55
Rawalpindi	27	27	192
Jhelum	43	34	100
Gujrát	47	100	60
Shahpur	27	42	46
Mooltán	37	122	53
Jhang	17	103	57
Montgomery	29	95	51
Muzaffargarh	17	85	32
Dera Ismail Khán	31	136	44
Dera Ghazi Khan	...	243	16
Bannú	72	143	39
Pesháwar	9	230	47
Hazára	11	96	31
Kohát	5	293	2
Total ...	763	2,894	2,244

Decrease in original work.

56. Last year's returns showed a decrease of 11·5 per cent in the total original work performed by Deputy Commissioners. There has been a further decrease of 12·5 per cent during the year under report.

The decrease is in both classes of cases, being nearly 2 per cent in cases tried under Section 36, and 10 per cent in those tried under ordinary Magisterial powers.

The decrease in number of cases tried under Section 36 is mainly due to the Deputy Commissioners of the Jullundur, Gujranwala and Bannu districts not having been invested with enhanced powers, and to other Deputy Commissioners having exercised them only for a portion of the year.

Under ordinary Magisterial powers, the largest number of cases were disposed of by the Deputy Commissioners of the frontier districts of Kohát, Peshawar and Dera Ghazi Khán.

It is difficult to make any very accurate comparison between the work performed by different Deputy Commissioners as the returns do not show separately regular trials for substantive offences, and the cases of security for good behaviour taken up by Deputy Commissioners during their winter tours in the exercise of their preventive jurisdiction.

Simla, Umballa, Jullundur, Rawalpindi, Delhi and Ludhiana.

In the marginally noted districts, however, the number of cases disposed of by the Deputy Commissioner is noticeably below the average.

E.—SPECIAL JURISDICTION.

Cases disposed of under Section 36 Criminal Procedure Code.

57. The number of cases disposed of under Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code has decreased from 965 in the previous year to 763 in the year under report.

The largest number of cases so disposed of in any one district was 72, in the Bannú district. Good use was also made of their enhanced powers by the Deputy Commissioners of Amritsar, Lahore, Jhelum and Gujrát.

Several Commissioners remark that these powers are not always so freely exercised as they should be, and that cases are still occasionally committed to their Courts which might well have been disposed of by Deputy Commissioners under Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code, while others are left to Subordinate Magistrates which would more appropriately have been dealt with by the Magistrate of the District. These remarks appear to be supported by the statistics under review, and are worthy of the careful consideration of all Magistrates of Districts who have been invested with enhanced powers.

Of the total number of persons disposed of under this Section, 874, or 64·6 per cent, were convicted; of those convicted, 23 per cent were punished with terms of imprisonment exceeding 3 years and their sentences referred to the Sessions Judge for confirmation.

Summary trials.

58. The following table gives a detail of the persons disposed of on summary trial under Chapter XVIII of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Districts.		Summary Jurisdiction.		
		Persons.		Total cases disposed of.
		Acquitted, discharged, &c.	Convicted.	
Delhi		92	198	188
	Gurgáon	...	5	4
	Karnál	2	23	26
Hissár		...	14	10
	Rohtak	...	...	...
	Sirsa	8	79	59
Umbálla		601	1,547	1,317
	Ludhiánk	22	66	72
	Simla	1	2	2
Jullundur		30	68	50
	Hoshiárpur	7	25	29
	Káugra	49	90	77
Amritsar		2,154	1,922	1,814
	Gurdáspur	339	220	305
	Siálkot	138	64	90
Lahore		48	220	192
	Gujránwála	11	202	113
	Ferozepore	58	72	92
Rawalpindi		21	153	149
	Jhelum	17	40	36
	Gujrát	48	127	73
	Sháhpur	166	170	203
Mooltán		67	251	155
	Jhang	11	15	26
	Montgomery	9	25	24
	Muzaffargarh	6	25	19
Dera Ismail Khán		25	113	75
	Dera Ghazi Khán	...	10	5
	Bannú	...	23	15
Peshawar		42	112	81
	Huzára	1	9	9
	Kahát	3	96	33
	Total	3,976	6,000	5,343

59. The above statement shows a decrease of 903 cases and 3,044 persons, as compared with the previous year. The decrease, however would seem to be entirely due to a more correct system of classification having been followed during the year under report than in previous years. The local reports show that in former years the statistics of several districts have included cases which might have been tried summarily by Boards of Honorary Magistrates, but in which, in point of fact, full records were kept. Such cases have been carefully excluded in the returns now under review.

Decrease in summary trials commented on.

The large number of cases shown for Amritsar, as compared with other districts, is due to the Board of Honorary Magistrates for the city of Amritsar, being the only Board which exercises its powers of summary trial. The Deputy Commissioner reports that these cases are correctly shown, and that the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code regarding summary trials are duly attended to by the Board. The relatively large number of summary trials shown in the Umballa district would appear to be due to the inclusion of cases tried summarily by the Magistrate of the Umballa cantonment for breaches of cantonment rules, a class of

cases which do not appear to have been included in the returns of other districts, though doubtless the greater number of these cases were tried summarily.

No cases were tried summarily in the Rohtak district, and extremely few cases were so tried in the Gurgáon, Simla, Dera Ghazi Khán, and Hazára districts.

60. The exercise of the jurisdiction of Magistrates over European British subjects is shown in the annexed statement :—

Jurisdiction over European British subjects :—

Districts.	Jurisdiction over European British subjects.			
	Persons.			Total cases disposed of.
	Acquitted, discharged &c.	Convicted.	Committed.	
Delhi	11	11	...	22
Gurgáon	1	1	...	2
Hissár	1	...	...	1
Umballa	3	9	...	12
Simla	35	21	...	36
Jullundur	2	1	...	2
Kángra	...	1	...	1
Gurdáspur	3	2	...	5
Siálkot	2	...	...	2
Lahore	12	48	3	55
Gujránwála	...	...	1	1
Ferozepore	1	...	...	1
Ráwalpindi	2	3	...	5
Gujrát	3	4	...	5
Mooltan	5	7	...	11
Montgomery	1	...	...	1
Peshawar	1	...	...	1
Total ...	83	108	4	163

163 cases were disposed of as against 113 in the previous year. In these cases 195 persons were involved, of whom 108 were convicted by the Magistrates themselves, 4 committed for trial to Courts of Session, and the remainder acquitted or discharged.

The largest number of cases occurred, as last year, in the Lahore, Simla and Delhi districts :—

The full term of imprisonment awardable by a Magistrate, *viz.* 3 months, was awarded in two cases, in the Lahore and Jullundur districts. In the former the conviction was for theft in a building, under Section 380, Indian Penal Code, and in the latter the prisoner was convicted under Section 409, Indian Penal Code.

The heaviest fine imposed was Rs. 500, in the Gurdaspur district, on a conviction for defamation.

F.—ORIGINAL WORK OF COURTS OF SESSION.

61. Imperial Return No. 3 shows the total number of persons dealt with by Commissioners sitting as Courts of Session.

The following statement shows more particularly the work of the several Commissioners during the year :—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	For Disposal.								Disposed of											
Divisions.	Pending from 1875.		Committed to the Sessions during 1876.		Received by Transfer.		Total.		Convicted and referred to Chief Court under sec. 325 C. P. C.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Died, escaped or transferred.	Total.		Pending at end of year		Per-centage of persons convicted.	Number of cases pending over three months.	Average duration.	Date of oldest case pending.
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.					Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.				
Delhi ..	1	4	21	37	..	..	22	41	6	17	17	..	21	40	1	1	57·6	..	62	22nd Novr '76.
Hissar ..	1	4	16	22	..	..	16	26	6	9	11	..	14	26	2	4	57 7	..	38	7th Decr '76.
Umballa ..	1	3	30	54	..	..	31	57	5	23	24	1	29	53	2	4	52 8	..	45	11th Decr. '76.
Jullundur ..	4	6	41	60	..	..	45	66	11	37	12	..	40	60	5	6	80·0	1	44	11th Decr '76.
Amritsar ..	1	2	36	74	..	..	37	76	2	39	13	..	30	44	7	27	70 5	1	60	28th July '76.
Lahore ..	3	70	28	53	..	..	29	62	6	27	14	..	28	44	11	18	65 9	4	32	7th Septr '76.
Rawalpindi ..	2	17	45	105	..	..	50	122	20	48	45	1	44	114	6	8	59 0	..	57	4th Octr '76.
Mooltan ..	1	7	24	46	1	4	26	57	6	16	29	..	28	51	3	6	43 1	..	62	2nd Octr '76.
Derajat ..	..	..	61	106	..	..	61	106	15	52	33	4	59	104	2	2	64 4	..	38	9th Decr. '76.
Peshawar ..	17	30	88	138	..	..	105	227	20	106	74	..	93	200	10	27	63 0	..	65	25th Octr. '76.
Total ..	37	91	302	745	1	4	430	840	97	360	272	7	388	736	47	104	62 1	6	50	28th July '76.

62. There is an increase of 30 in the number of cases committed to the Sessions, as compared with the previous year. The increase is due to fewer cases having been disposed of by Deputy Commissioners under Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code, and not to an increase in heinous crime, which, as has already been pointed out in the earlier sections of this report, has generally diminished.

Increase in number of commitments.

63. Including cases pending from the previous year, there were 430 causes for disposal, involving 840 persons, who were disposed of as follows :—

Details of disposal.

Convicted and sentenced to death	97
Convicted and sentenced otherwise	360
Acquitted	272
Died, escaped, or transferred	7
Remaining under trial	104

There is a decrease of 26 in the number of capital sentences, as compared with the preceding year, due to fewer persons having been involved in the murders committed during the year.

The per-centage of persons convicted to persons disposed of is 62, as compared with 66·4 in the year 1875. The proportion was highest in the Jullundur Division, *viz.* 80 per cent, and lowest in the Mooltán Division, where it amounted to 43 per cent only.

64. The average duration of Sessions trials for the province, reckoned from date of commitment to date of final order, is 50 days. This average compares favourably with that of last year, which was 58 days,

Average duration.

Cases were longest pending in the Amritsar Court (average 69 days) and Peshá-war Court (average 65 days). The average duration in the Sessions Courts of Hissár and Ráwalpindi was only 25 and 28 days respectively. The oldest pending case is in the Amritsar Division, and was committed for trial on the 28th July 1876. The case was decided, after the close of the year, in January 1877.

Trials of European British subjects.

65. Three European British subjects were dealt with by Courts of Session during the year. A conviction was obtained in one case only. The accused in this case was convicted under Section 323 of the Indian Penal Code and sentenced to six months rigorous imprisonment by the Sessions Judge of Amritsar.

G.—WITNESSES.

66. The number of witnesses who attended Criminal Courts during the year was 1,79,871, as compared with 1,85,100 in the year 1875 and 1,93,251 in 1874. Of these, 90 per cent were discharged on the first day of their appearance, 7 per cent on the 2nd day, and 3 per cent were detained for periods varying from 3 to 16 days. These results compare satisfactorily with those obtained in former years, and show that greater attention is now paid to this important subject than formerly.

The longest detention occurred in the Ráwalpindi district, where 2 persons were detained 16 days. The Deputy Commissioner explains that the witnesses were detained pending an application to the Chief Court for the removal of the case in which their evidence was required to the Jhelum district. It has not been explained, however, why it was considered necessary to keep the witnesses in attendance during the whole of this time. A further explanation has been called for.

In Dera Ismail Khán, also, 17 persons were detained for periods varying from 9 to 15 days. The necessity for these long detentions has not been explained by the Deputy Commissioner, but the Commissioner remarks that he is satisfied that every effort was made to release the witnesses from attendance as speedily as possible.

Attendance diaries.

67. Most district officers report that the diaries of witnesses are regularly and carefully kept up, and inspected periodically either by the Deputy Commissioner himself or some other responsible officer deputed by him.

Expenses of witnesses.

68. The following statement shows in detail the number of witnesses dieted, and the amount paid away in diet money both by the Police and Magistrates during the year:—

District.	Number of witnesses examined	Number of witnesses diet ed by		Amount of diet money paid.		
		Police.	Magistrate.	By Police.	By Magistrate.	Total.
Delhi	7,909	167	137	64	183	247
Gurgáon	6,508	1,055	409	331	339	670
Karnál	5,099	1,105	159	151	31	182
Hissár	5,350	309	721	31	163	194
Rohták	6,842	1,198	1,152	136	445	581
Sirsa	1,910	311	1	43	4	47
Umbálla	8,737	1,223	1,107	303	714	1,017
Ludhiána	3,780	788	2,175	128	508	636
Simla	2,232		98	...	49	49
Jullundur	4,548	253	777	42	422	464
Hoshiárpur	5,082	2,055	1,784	434	804	1,238
Káugra	3,786	461	603	114	241	355
Amritsar	11,866	898	555	240	285	525
Gurdáspúr	8,615	1,875	2,171	333	879	1,212
Siálkot	6,640	2,798	1,061	734	397	1,131
Lahore	7,822	3,151	2,198	548	544	1,092
Gujránwála	7,324	1,567	466	294	124	418
Ferozepore	3,073	1,309	1,069	384	416	800
Rawalpindi	10,019	2,953	125	845	113	958
Jhelum	6,804	2,683	679	643	348	991
Gujrát	5,261	2,386	42	287	39	326
Sháhpúr	4,861	906	767	396	116	512
Mooltán	6,869	2,142	1,095	614	620	1,234
Jhang	3,762	1,048	387	284	194	478
Montgomery	4,700	3,443	473	610	256	866
Muzaffargarh	5,726	1,676	1,253	294	350	644
Derah Ismail Khán	3,488	114	276	36	300	336
Derah Ghazi Khán ...	4,664	...	164	...	131	134
Bannú	3,217	59	84	24	60	84
Peshawar	6,485	...	418	...	203	203
Hazára	4,295	...	1,501	...	516	516
Kohát	1,697	...	108	...	64	64
Total ...	1,79,871	37,033	24,015	8,343	9,858	18,201

69. The amount expended during the year in the payment of expenses to witnesses is Rs. 2,297 in excess of the expenditure of the previous year. This increase in expenditure is satisfactory as indicating on the whole a more liberal construction, on the part of both Police and Judicial Officers, of the principles laid down in Selected Judicial Circulars 54 and 55, and reiterated in this office Book Circular No. V of 1876.

70. The variations, however, in the amounts expended and in the number of witnesses dieted in the different districts, which are as marked as in former years, show that far closer personal attention and stricter supervision of subordinate courts is still required before it can be hoped that the intentions of Government will be properly and uniformly carried out throughout the province. It is impossible to suppose that in the Sirsa district only one person was during the whole year entitled to remuneration for the time he was detained as a witness in a Criminal Court. On the other hand,

Variations in different districts.

the high proportion of dieted witnesses shown for the Montgomery district would seem to imply that either the whole of the witnesses who were examined have not been entered in the attendance register, or that remuneration was given unnecessarily in some cases to witnesses who were not entitled to any. The reports show that this inequality of procedure has attracted, in many cases, the attention of Commissioners, and that enquiries are being made with a view to ascertaining and regulating the practice followed in different districts. Under these circumstances, the Judges will not on the present occasion do more than express a hope that the subject will continue to receive the careful attention of Commissioners and district officers during the year, and that next year's returns will show that the regulations regarding the payment of expenses to witnesses have been more carefully followed than they appear to be at present.

Average cost of each witness dieted by the Police and by Magistrates

71. The average cost of each witness dieted by the Police was 3 annas 6 pies, and by Magistrates 6 annas 6 pies. Magistrates would thus appear to be, as a rule, far more liberal in allowing expenses to witnesses than Police officers. This also is a point worthy of general attention, with a view to the rates allowed by Magistrates and the Police being equalized as far as possible.

PART II.—APPELLATE JURISDICTION OF SESSIONS COURTS AND MAGISTRATES.

72. Imperial Return No. 5 shows the general result of appeal and revision in Criminal cases in the province during the year.

Including cases pending from 1875, the total number of appeals for disposal from the orders of all Magistrates was 4,960, being 473 or 8·7 per cent less than in the previous year. The decrease is entirely in appeals to Courts of Session. Appeals to Magistrates of Districts increased 4·8 per cent.

Appeals to Depy. Comrs.

73. Of the above number, there were for disposal by Deputy Commissioners 2,274 appeals, involving 3,821 persons. Of these, 2,244 cases, affecting 3,771 persons, were disposed of during the year as follows :—

Detail of disposal	Number of persons disposed of.	Proportion to the number disposed of
Appeals rejected { without calling for files	142	10·8
Appeals rejected { after perusal of files	265	
Sentences confirmed...	1,884	50·0
Sentences modified	531	14·1
Sentences enhanced	82	2·1
Sentences reversed	854	22·6
Proceedings quashed under Section 284, Criminal Procedure Code	13	0·3

leaving 30 appeals, in which 50 persons were concerned, pending at the close of the year.

74. The annexed table shows the number of cases and persons disposed of in each district, and the proportion of reversals :—

Districts	Cases disposed of.	Persons			
		Whose appeals were disposed of	Whose sentences were reversed.	Whose sentences were enhanced	Per-centage of reversals
Delhi	169	204	54		26 5
Gurgáon	67	128	38		29 7
Karnál	33	55	6	3	11 0
Hissár	45	86	11	1	12 8
Rohtak	134	213	43	7	20 2
Sirsá	17	25	8		32 0
Umballa	118	201	42		20 9
Ludhiáná	99	147	30	9	20 4
Simla					
Jullundur	87	133	33	1	24 8
Hoshiarpur	74	156	62	1	39 1
Kángra	41	50	8	3	16 0
Amritsar	126	188	49		26 1
Gurdáspur	115	174	17	11	9 8
Sialkot	88	140	38		27 1
Lahore	125	182	54	3	29 7
Gujranwálá	81	149	74		49 6
Ferózepore	55	87	4	7	4 6
Ráwalpindi	192	426	69	1	16 2
Jhelum	100	214	41	2	19 1
Gujrát	60	93	9		9 1
Sháhpúr	46	93	24	2	25·8
Moolán	53	85	36	6	42 3
Jhang	57	74	8	6	10 8
Montgomery	51	92	15	4	16 3
Muzaffargarh	32	34	5	7	14 7
Derah Ismail Khán	44	66	11		16 6
Dera Ghazi Khán	16	16	4	1	25 0
Ipmuá	39	86	24	2	27 9
Peshawar	47	107	29	3	27 1
Hazára	31	61	8	2	13 1
Kohát	2	6			
TOTAL	2,244	3,771	854	82	22 6

75. The largest number of appeals disposed of in any district was 192, in Ráwalpindi. In Kohát only two cases were appealed to the Magistrate of the district during the whole year; in both cases the orders of the Lower Court were upheld. It has been noted above that there is an increase of 4·8 per cent in appeals from the orders of second and third class Magistrates, as compared with last year. This is most noticeable in the Umbálla, Gurdáspur and Ráwalpindi districts, in each of which the per-centage of increase is between 43 and 44 per cent. In Hoshiárpur appeals to the Magistrate of the District have decreased 40 per cent and in Jullundur 36 per cent. No special reasons are assigned for these variations.

Re-trial, enhancement and remand for further enquiry.

76. The per-centage of reversals in districts ranges from 4·6 in Ferozepore to 49 6 in Gujránwála; for the province it is 22·6 per cent. In the case of 82 persons the sentence passed by the Lower Court was enhanced. This power was most freely exercised by the Deputy Commissioner of Gurdáspur, who enhanced the punishments of 11 persons. A further enquiry was directed in 108 cases, as compared with 142 in 1875.

Average duration.

77. The average duration of appeals in Deputy Commissioner's Courts is 7 days for the province, the same as in the previous year. The average is highest in the following districts :—

Gurgáon	15 days.
Dera Ghazi Khán	13 „

Longest pending case.

78 The case which had been longest pending at the close of the year was in the Siálkot district. It was instituted on the 9th October 1876.

Appeals to Courts of Session.

79. Including cases pending at the commencement of each year, the number of appeals to Courts of Session fell from 3,043 cases, involving 3,644 persons, in 1875 to 2,686 cases, involving 3,290 persons, in the year under report. The following statement shows how the appeals for disposal by the Courts of Session were disposed of :—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Divisions.	For disposal, including pending from last year.		Disposed of — Persons.							Disposed of — Total.				Pending at the end of the year.		Total number of days from date of institution to date of decision.	Average duration of appeals.	No. of appeals pending more than one month.	No. of cases referred to Chief Court for revision.	Date of oldest case pending.
			Appeals rejected on technical grounds.	Sentences confirmed.		Sentences modified.	Sentences enhanced.	Sentences reversed.	Proceedings quashed, Sec. 284 C. P. C.	After directing further enquiry Sec. 282 Criminal Pro. Code.		Without directing further enquiry.								
	Cases.	Persons.		Without calling for files.	After perusal of files.					Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.					
Delhi ...	233	282	17	5	186	5	...	66	...	16	18	214	261	3	3	4,608	20	1	112	22nd November 1876
Hissár ...	200	267	40	2	157	15	3	46	...	7	15	191	249	2	3	1,807	9	...	13	9th December 1876
Umballa ...	395	449	2	117	209	36	2	73	...	...	...	335	439	10	10	5,575	14	2	3	5th October 1876.
Jullundur ...	141	175	...	...	111	32	2	24	...	2	5	138	164	6	6	4,548	33	...	...	5th December 1876.
Amritsar ...	291	336	10	3	239	40	...	41	1	...	...	289	334	2	2	17,749	62	1	...	5th September 1876.
Lahore ...	308	303	27	90	111	15	10	41	...	8	8	286	286	14	14	4,245	14	1	...	30th December 1876.
Rawalpindi ...	347	515	21	112	235	22	4	67	4	13	14	320	474	14	27	5,947	18	3	...	16th November 1876.
Mooltan ...	324	420	24	1	312	2	3	66	...	3	3	309	405	12	12	9,745	31	1	...	26th November 1876.
Deraját ...	264	308	22	19	189	38	7	29	...	8	8	253	296	3	4	1,303	5	...	...	18th December 1876.
Peshâwar	183	230	43	22	90	20	12	13	3	5	5	156	198	22	27	3,269	14	1	2	1st November 1876.
Total ...	2,686	3,290	209	371	1,869	26	43	486	8	62	76	2,536	3,106	88	108	57,785	22	10	30	5th September 1876.

The decrease extends to every Division except Amritsar, where there is an increase of 5 cases only. In Jullundur the decrease was 36 per cent. Appellate work was heaviest in the Court of the Commissioner of Umballa.

Reversals and enhancements.

80. The per-centage of reversals for the province is 14·6, as compared with 12 9 last year. The proportion is highest in the Delhi Division, where the sentences of 23·4 per cent of the persons who appealed were reversed. In the Peshâwar Division the per-centage of reversals is as low as 5·6.

The sentences of 1·3 per cent of the persons who appealed were enhanced in 1875 the per-centage was 1·2. Sentences were most freely enhanced by the Commissioners of Peshâwar and Lahore.

Average duration

81. The average duration of appeals in Courts of Sessions is 22 days for the province, or 2 days more than in the preceding year. It is highest in the Amritsar Division, *viz.* 62 days.

Oldest pending case

82. The Amritsar Division also has the oldest pending appeal, which dates from the 5th September 1876. The case was decided, after the close of the year, on the 29th January 1877.

PART III.—PUNISHMENTS.

83. Imperial Return No. 4 shows the punishments inflicted by the various Criminal tribunals during the year :—

The annexed table gives an abstract of the more salient features of the return. The figures of the preceding year are added for the sake of comparison :—

Class of Tribunals	Year	Total number of persons punished.	Persons sentenced to: Death.	Transportation: For life	Transportation: For a term	Imprisonment: Rigorous: With solitary confinement	Imprisonment: Rigorous: Without solitary confinement	Imprisonment: Simple	Forfeiture of property	Fine: With imprisonment	Fine: Without imprisonment or transportation	Whipping: In addition to other punishments	Whipping: In lieu of other punishments
Magistrates' Courts	1875	70 010			7	6585	7,725	656	19	10 985	52,462	887	2,609
	1876	65,505			6	6,549	6,944	557	14	9,080	48,959	377	2 503
Sessions Courts	1875	417	12	9	15	84	105	2	14	98	25	4	
	1876	457	9	8	16	105	152	5	17	142	11		8
Chief Court	1875					..	..						
	1876					...	...						
Total	1875	70 187	12	9	18	6 669	7,830	658	27	10,483	52 487	491	2609
	1876	65,959	9	8	22	6,648	7,076	552	91	9,822	48,970	377	2,506

Total number of persons punished

84. The total number of persons punished was 65,959, a decrease of 4,528, or 6 4 per cent, on the number punished in the preceding year.

Capital sentences

85. Capital sentences have decreased from 123 to 97

Transportation

86. 110 persons were sentenced to transportation—88 for life and the rest for a term of years. In the previous year 93 persons were sentenced to transportation for life, and 18 for a term of years.

Imprisonment and solitary confinement.

87. 13,724 persons were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment, as compared with 14,499 in 1875.

Of the total number so sentenced 6,648, or 48·4 per cent, were also punished with solitary confinement. This is a slight improvement on the per-centage of the previous year, which was 46·6. The per-centage is unduly low in the following districts :—

Dera Ghazi Khán	...	...	...	23
Kohát ...	...	...	...	24
Ráwalpindi ...	...	...	...	26
Delhi ...	...	...	...	29

The attention of the Commissioners concerned has been directed to the necessity of exercising a closer supervision over their subordinate courts in this particular.

552 persons were sentenced to simple imprisonment, against 656 in the previous year.

Of the total number of persons punished with imprisonment, 68 per cent were also sentenced to fine. The per-centage was 67 in 1874 and 69 in 1875.

Forfeiture of property.

88. 31 persons were sentenced to forfeiture of property, in addition to other punishment, as compared with 27 persons in the preceding year. This punishment was, as last year, most freely resorted to by the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Peshawar. The check which an occasional resort to this mode of punishment has given to violent crime in the frontier districts is freely acknowledged in the reports under review. Sentences of forfeiture of property are at present very rarely passed except in frontier districts. It is worthy of the consideration of Sessions Judges whether a more frequent use of the punishment in other districts, notably those of the Ráwalpindi Division—where offences of the same class are at present far too prevalent—would not be productive of equally beneficial results.

Whipping.

89. Out of a total number of 11,164 persons liable to whipping on first and second conviction, 25 per cent were whipped. The per-centage was the same last year. Of the 2,883 persons who were whipped, 87 per cent were sentenced to whipping alone in lieu of other punishment. Out of 456 juveniles liable to whipping, 332, or 72·8 per cent, were whipped.

Fine.

90. The proportion (74 per cent) borne by the number of persons punished with fine only to the total number of persons sentenced is as nearly as possible the same as last year. Of the entire number of persons fined, 47,721, or 81 per cent, were sentenced to fines not exceeding Rs. 10. In 1875 the proportion was 80 per cent.

Amounts imposed and realized.

91. The total amount of fines imposed by all Courts amounted to Rs. 5,47,700, as compared with Rs. 6,97,727 in the preceding year. Of the total amount imposed, Rs. 5,33,203 were imposed by District Courts, and Rs. 14,497 by Courts of Session. There is no very material difference between the two years in the amount of fines imposed by Sessions Judges. The amount imposed by District Courts is 20 per cent less than in the previous year.

The total amount realized was Rs. 4,24,830, of which Rs. 94,330 were realizations on account of fines imposed in previous years.

Of the fines imposed by all Courts during the year, 60 per cent were realized, as compared with 59 per cent in the two previous years.

92. The following comparative statement shows the average amount of fine imposed per head, and the per-centage of realizations for each district, during the last two years. Only fines imposed by District Courts during the years under review are included.

Districts.		Average amount of fine per head.	Per-centage of fine realized.
Delhi	1875	8	57
	1876	7	63
Gurgáon	1875	13	65
	1876	9	65
Karnál	1875	11	44
	1876	8	59
Hissár	1875	7	65
	1876	8	68
Rohtak	1875	14	57
	1876	13	58
Sirsa	1875	14	40
	1876	11	54
Umballa	1875	9	64
	1876	8	63
Ludhiána	1875	12	35
	1876	8	46
Simla	1875	3	77
	1876	5	75
Jullundur	1875	10	72
	1876	5	65
Hoshiárpúr	1875	10	52
	1876	6	67
Kángra	1875	5	83
	1876	4	74
Amritsar	1875	5	66
	1876	6	68
Gurdáspur	1875	14	51
	1876	10	62
Siálkot	1875	10	73
	1876	14	41
Lahore	1875	6	53
	1876	10	48
Gujránwála	1875	14	54
	1876	9	62
Ferozepore	1875	10	48
	1876	8	53
Rawalpindi	1875	10	71
	1876	9	77
Jhelam	1875	29	18
	1876	8	69
Gujrát	1875	12	62
	1876	14	56
Shahpur	1875	9	69
	1876	12	64
Mooltán	1875	9	59
	1876	9	68
Jhang	1875	11	54
	1876	9	54
Montgomery	1875	16	34
	1876	16	35
Muzaffargarh	1875	24	48
	1876	15	64

Districts.		Average amount of fine per head.	Per-centage of fine realized.
Dera Ismail Khán	1875	18	61
	1876	14	75
Dera Ghazi Khán	1875	22	62
	1876	16	49
Bannu	1875	12	69
	1876	12	96
Pesháwar	1875	12	54
	1876	11	43
Hazára	1875	12	58
	1876	12	69
Kohát	1875	15	74
	1876	14	78
Total	1875	11 0	55
	1876	9 1	61

It will be seen that while the average fine imposed per head has decreased from Rs. 11 to Rs. 9·1, the per-centage of realization is 61, as against 55 in the previous year.

Average fine per head.

93. The average amount of fine imposed per head ranges from Rs. 4 in Kángra to Rs. 16 in the Montgomery and Dera Ghazi Khán districts—the averages being highest in the frontier districts, and in the Montgomery, Muzaffargarh, Gujrát and Siálkot districts. The reports show that the principle of law, which is clearly laid down in Section 63 of the Indian Penal Code, that the fine imposed shall be reasonable in amount with reference to the circumstances of the person fined, is receiving increased attention from Magistrates of Districts and Sessions Judges, and that these officers, sitting as courts of appeal, freely exercise their power of modifying orders of lower courts in which the principle has not been observed. Especial interest in the subject has been paid by the Deputy Commissioners of Jullundur and Hoshiárpur, and in these districts the average of fines imposed has fallen from Rs. 10 in both districts in 1875 to Rs. 5 in Jullundur and Rs. 6 in Hoshiárpur in the year under report. In the Jhelum district also the figures of the present year contrast most favorably with those of last year, and indicate a careful attention to the subject on the part of the Deputy Commissioner, Colonel Mercer, which deserves acknowledgment.

A remark of the Deputy Commissioner of Jullundur, that he has found it not uncommon for some Native Magistrates to impose in petty offences an excessive fine, and, in default, a term of imprisonment far heavier than they would have thought of imposing had they awarded imprisonment in the first instance as the original sentence, is deserving of general attention.

94. The most successful realizations were in the Bannu, Kohát, Rawalpindi, Dera Ismail Khán and Kángra districts. The low per-centage of realization in the Montgomery, Siálkot and Pesháwar districts demands the careful attention of the Deputy Commissioners of these districts. The statistics given in the table seem to show that in all these districts the want of success must be, to some extent at all events, attributed to undue harshness on the part of the courts which imposed the fines.

Award of compensation.

95. While Rs. 93,505 were awarded during the year by way of compensation, as compared with Rs. 1,06,942 in the preceding year, Rs. 50,244 were paid away to persons for whom com-

pensation had been ordered either in the year under report or in previous years. The amounts awarded vary considerably in the different districts, but perhaps the most noticeable feature of the returns on this subject is the striking disproportion of sums paid away to the total amount of compensation awarded by Sessions Judges. Rs. 5,261 were awarded by Courts of Sessions during the year The amount disbursed during the year was Rs. 684 only.

PART IV.—PREVENTIVE JURISDICTION.

96. The annexed table shows the number of cases under Chapters XXXVII to XLI of the Code of Criminal Procedure which were disposed of by Magistrates in the exercise of their preventive jurisdiction during the year :—

Nature of Jurisdiction	Total cases	Persons brought to trial.	Persons with respect to whom action was taken.
Security or recognizance to keep the peace—Chapter XXXVII Criminal Procedure Code ..	2,147	8,798	6,559
Security for good behaviour—Chapter XXXVIII Criminal Procedure Code ...	4,230	6,098	5,028
Local nuisances—Chapter XXXIX Criminal Procedure Code ..	328	664	6
Disputes concerning land and water—Chapter XL Criminal Procedure Code	95	274	15
Maintenance—Chapter XLI Criminal Procedure Code ..	5,111	2,189	413

Security to keep the peace

97. The number of persons called upon to furnish security or recognizance to keep the peace has increased from 5,512 to 6,559, or 17 per cent. Security for the preservation of the peace was as usually most freely taken in the Peshawar and Bannu districts.

Of the persons called upon to give security 170 or 2·5 per cent were imprisoned in default. The proportion is highest in the Delhi district, where 37 per cent of the persons called on were imprisoned in default of furnishing the security demanded

Security for good behaviour

98. The returns show a decrease of 1,180, or 19 per cent, in the number of persons who were called on to furnish security for good behaviour. Security was most freely demanded in the following districts :—

In Lahore	from ...	903 persons.
„ Bannu	„ ...	555 „
„ Gujránwala	„ ...	545 „
„ Amritsar	„ ...	409 „

Of the total number from whom security was demanded, 1,409, or 28 per cent, were imprisoned in default. The proportion was 23 per cent in 1875 and 29 per cent in 1874. It is highest in the following districts :—

Jhelum, ...	89 per cent.
Jullundur ...	82 „
Rawalpindi ...	77 „
Sialkot ...	75 „

In the Siálkot district it appears that the detentions were mostly very short, and only lasted pending arrangements for furnishing the security demanded. A further report has been asked for regarding the large proportion of persons detained in the Jhelum, Jullundur and Rawalpindi districts.

Cases under Chapters XXXIX and XL Criminal Procedure Code.

99. The returns furnished by most districts regarding the number of persons with respect to whom action was taken under Chapters XXXIX and XL of the Criminal Procedure Code are apparently incorrect. It would appear, however, from the figures given in Imperial Return No. 2 that action was taken with respect to less than 1 per cent of the persons who were brought before a Magistrate under Chapter XXXIX, and with respect to 5 per cent only of the persons against whom informations were laid under Chapter XL. If these figures can be relied on, it would seem that in a majority of cases the machinery of a Criminal Court must have been set in motion far too easily. It is possible, however, that the figures may not be quite accurate in all cases. Further instructions will be issued for the guidance of reporting officers in the preparation of these returns for the year now current.

PART V.—PROCEDURE.

Improper complaints.

100. The two classes of cases in which the assistance of Criminal Courts is most often asked for without sufficient reason are—

I. Petty cases of assault, simple hurt, wrongful restraint, and the like, in which a complaint is hastily bolstered up with exaggerated or false statements, and hurried into Court with the object of avenging a slight, or gratifying a grudge.

II. Cases—prominent among which are complaints of criminal trespass, simple house trespass, and enticing away a married woman—in which the object of the complainant is to obtain redress for an actual or fancied civil wrong without the expense of a civil suit.

The chief provisions of the law for checking these complaints are, as has been frequently pointed out in previous reports, careful examination of the complainant before issue of process, and a free award of compensation in cases in which the law allows amends to be awarded, and in which the enquiry shows that the accused has been frivolously or vexatiously brought before a Criminal Court.

Occasion has been taken in Part III of this report to note the variations which have taken place in these two classes of offences during the last two years, both as regards admissions and convictions.

The comparison shows that, while on the whole there has been a slight falling off in the number of cases admitted, there is, except in cases of common assault and simple hurt, some small improvement in the proportion of convictions. Both these results are steps tending in the right direction, but at the same time the still generally low per-centage of convictions obtained in these offences shows that there are good grounds for the opinion expressed by a majority of reporting officers that preliminary examinations are usually far too superficial to be of real value, and that compensation is not awarded nearly as systematically as it should be.

The Commissioner of Jullundur considers that a local investigation by the police more often elicits the truth than any other process of preliminary enquiry, and no doubt there are many cases in which the truth or falsehood of the complaint cannot be satisfactorily ascertained without a reference to the police. But such

reference should only be made in cases in which a careful examination of the complainant has failed to afford the Court any sufficient clue to the character of the complaint before it

101 The annexed table shows that, on the whole, compensation for frivolous and vexatious complaints was awarded somewhat more freely during the year under report than in the previous year.

Year	Persons	Total amount of fine imposed
1875	680	Rs 3,520
1876	737	Rs 3,539

Umballa Ludhiana Simla Jhang Kohát.

The largest number of persons fined under this section was in Rawalpindi (83), Jhelum (66), and Hoshiarpur (57). The section was seemingly most neglected in the districts noted in the margin, in each of which the number of persons punished was less than 5

Habitual offenders

102 The treatment of habitual offenders and persons previously convicted continues to receive attention. The returns show that 4·3 per cent of the total number of sentences of imprisonment passed during the year were for periods of upwards of two years The proportion last year was 4·8 per cent The decrease, however, would appear to be due to the satisfactory cause that fewer heavy punishments were needed during the year under report than in the previous year The number of convictions of persons who had been once, or oftener, previously convicted has fallen from 1,265 to 1,234, and several reporting officers notice a satisfactory decline in the importance of the cases tried In Kohtak, with a slight excess in the number of thefts reported, the value of the property stolen was just one-half of what it was in the previous year

Enhancement of punishment under Section 46 of Criminal Procedure Code.

103. The number of cases submitted by Subordinate Magistrates to the Magistrate of the District for enhanced punishment under Section 46 of the Criminal Procedure Code was 404, or 14 less than in the previous year. The largest number submitted in any one district was 66, in Gurgaon.

Frontier rules

104 The following table shows the number of cases disposed of during the year under the Frontier rules :—

District	*Regulation I of 1872, Sec 3*	*Regulation I of 1872, Sec 4*	*Regulation I of 1872, Sec 8*	*Regulation IV of 1873, Sec 2*
	Villages fined for suppression of evidence or harbouring criminals	Quarrels likely to lead to bloodshed	Adultery.	Reference to Council of Elders
Dera Ismail Khán			6	4
Dera Ghazi Khán			2	1
Bannu			4	48
Peshawar	8	27		192
Hazára	2		...	48
Kohát ..	1		22	202
TOTAL	11	27	34	495

The arrangement of the table is somewhat different from that of previous reports. The Regulations have been this year arranged in the order prescribed by Resolution No. XIII, dated 11th October 1875, of the Government of India in the Legislative Department, and offences tried under the Regulations have been uniformly classified as such, instead of being, as occasionally happened in previous years, entered under the corresponding section of the Indian Penal Code.

The Commissioners of Deraját and Peshawar report that the rules continue to work satisfactorily on the whole, and that many persons are through their instrumentality brought to justice who would otherwise escape punishment altogether.

The Deputy Commissioners of Bannu and Hazára consider that the efficacy of the rules would be materially increased if default in payment of the fine could be followed up by imprisonment or the attachment and sale of the land of the person fined.

PART VI:—CHIEF COURT JURISDICTION.

105. The work of the Chief Court is shown in Imperial Returns Nos. 3, 4 and 5.

Reference side.

Including the cases of 8 persons under reference at the end of 1875, there were for disposal on the Reference side of the Chief Court the cases of 109 persons. All were disposed of during the year except 5 cases, involving 7 persons.

The annexed table gives the detail of disposal of Criminal reference cases:—

Divisions.	For disposal.		Disposed of.						Pending at the end of the year.		Average number of days each case lasted.	Remarks
	Number of cases.	Number of persons.	Number of cases.	Number of persons.	Sentences confirmed.	Sentences modified	Persons acquitted.	Persons whose cases were remanded for further investigation.	Number of cases.	Number of persons.		
Delhi	5	7	5	7	6	1	...	...	..	...	20	
Hissár	3	5	2	3	1	2	...	..	1	2	26	
Umballa	6	6	6	6	3	1	2	...	...	..	14	
Jullundur ...	4	6	3	4	3	1	...	...	1	2	14	
Amritsar ..	2	2	2	2	1	1	...	..	...		19	
Lahore ...	6	8	6	8	7	1	...	.	..	..	32	One case involving 2 persons was disposed of after directing further enquiry
Rawalpindi	19	28	19	28	24	2	2	...	.	...	19	
Multán	3	3	3	3	3	..	...	...	...	...	9	
Derajat ...	14	18	14	18	15	1	2	...	...	..	14	
Peshawar ..	15	18	12	15	10	2	3	...	3	3	13	
Total ...	77	101	72	94	73	12	9	...	5	7	17	

From the above it will be seen that in 77·6 per cent of the total number of persons disposed of, the sentence of death passed by the Sessions Judge was confirmed; the per-centage in which the sentences were modified and reversed being 12 7 and 9·5 respectively.

Each case lasted on the average 17 days, as compared with 12 days in the previous year and 23 days in 1874.

Appellate side.

106. The following statement shows the number of Criminal Appeals instituted in the Chief Court during the year :—

Divisions.	Appeals against the orders of Commissioners.	Appeals against the orders of Dy Commrs	Remarks
Delhi	10	41	
Hissár	25	18	
Umballa	18	20	
Jullundur	19	5	
Amritsar	20	31	* Received by transfer 2 cases
Lahore	6	19	
Ráwalpindi	37	50	
Multán	10	61	
Deraját	50	37	
Pesháwar	81	20	
Total ...	276	302	= 578

The statement shows that 578 appeals, involving 664 persons, were instituted in 1876, against 691 appeals, involving 869 persons, in the previous year.

Of the appeals instituted, 276, or 48 per cent, were against the orders of Sessions Courts; and 302, or 52 per cent, were against the orders of Magistrates of Districts exercising enhanced powers under Section 36 of Act X of 1872. Of the orders appealable to the Chief Court 50 per cent were appealed. In 1875 the percentage was 49

Disposal of appeals

107. Including 33 cases pending from 1875, there were for disposal 611 appeals, involving 714 persons. Of these, 568 cases, affecting 664 persons, were disposed of during the year, as follows :—

Detail of disposal.	*No. of persons disposed of.*	*Proportion borne to total number disposed of.*
Appeals rejected	46	7
Orders confirmed	465	70
Sentences modified	42	6
Do. enhanced	8	1
Do. reversed	101	15
Proceedings quashed	2	3

Forty-three appeals, in which 50 persons were concerned, were pending at the close of the year.

The proportion of orders confirmed and reversed are not materially different from those of the preceding year.

The average duration of appeals in the Chief Court was 29 days, or one day more than in the previous year.

Revision side.

108. The following statement shows the number of Criminal cases received for revision under Sections 294, 296 and 297 of the Criminal Procedure Code during the year :—

Divisions.	Petitions presented by the petitioner in person or through agent, under Section 297.	Cases referred by Deputy Commissioners and Commissioners on Revision side, under Section 296.	Cases called for on statements under Section 294 Criminal Procedure Code.	Total.
Delhi	18	17	3	38
Hissár	17	14	...	31
Umballa	46	13	1	60
Jullundur	24	13	...	37
Amritsar	114	10	2	126
Lahore	120	31	11	162
Ráwalpindi	68	34	3	105
Moultan	53	24	1	78
Deraját	44	21	3	68
Peshawar	26	11	1	...
Total	530	188	25	743

Including 48 cases, involving 90 persons, which were pending at the beginning of the year, there were for disposal 791 cases, in which 1,522 persons were concerned.

Of the total number for disposal, 1,427 persons were disposed of as follows:—

The Court—

Rejected the application of	...	588 persons.
Confirmed sentences of	...	345 ,,
Modified the sentences of	...	86 ,,
Reversed the sentences of	...	268 ,,
Remanded the cases of	...	106 ,,
Enhanced the sentences of	...	34 ,,

At the end of the year there were pending 39 cases and 95 persons.

The average duration was 26 days, as compared with 19 in the previous year.

Miscellaneous cases.

109. In addition to the above, the Chief Court disposed of 5 Miscellaneous cases.

Original jurisdiction.

110. There were no trials held during the year by the Chief Court in the exercise of its Original Criminal Jurisdiction.

Judges' tours of inspection.

111. During the course of the year Mr. Justice Boulnois inspected Subordinate Courts in the Umballa, Ludhiana, Simla, Lahore, Muzaffargarh and Dera Ghazi Khán districts. The local Courts at Sultánpur in Kulu, Kailang in Lahoul, and Dankar in Spiti were also visited by Mr. Boulnois, while on privilege leave.

I have, &c.,

G. W. RIVÁZ.

Officiating Registrar.

IMPERIAL RETURNS.

IMPERIAL RETURN

No. 1.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE VARIOUS JUDICIAL TRIBUNALS, ORIGINAL AND APPELLATE, EXISTING IN THE SEVERAL DISTRICTS OF THE PUNJAB ON THE LAST DAY OF THE YEAR 1876.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Class of tribunals, distinguishing those which exercise powers in one department, from those exercising powers in two or three departments, and those consisting of paid from unpaid Judges.	No. of Judicial Divisions.	Average area of each Division in square miles.	Average population of each Division.	Number of tribunals.	Constitution of tribunals stating number of Judges in each, and jury or assessors if any.	Judicial powers of each tribunal, original and appellate.	Prescribed qualifications of Judges previous to appointment.	TOTAL NUMBER OF JUDGES. European. Covenanted.	Commissioned Military Officers.	Uncovenanted.	Native.	AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY OF EACH PAID JUDGE. European.	Native.	Total cost of tribunals.	Net receipts from stamps.	Executive or other functions exercised by the same officers.	Average number of days in the year devoted to Judicial work.	Average number of Advocates attached to each tribunal.	NUMBER OF CASES DECIDED DURING THE YEAR. Criminal.	Civil.	Revenue.	Appeal.
Munsiffs, exercising Civil powers only ... Paid	Cantonments and District Small Cause Courts and 74 Munsiffs' Courts.	10,183 square miles.	to last Census, taken in 1868.	75	1	Civil powers up to Rs. 300.	...	...	...	...	75			Rs. 27,27,003.	Rs. 11,06,620.	Munsiffs	Gazetted Holidays excepted.	Pleaders and 37 Mukhtars are practising in the Province.	...	1,10,931	1,284	...
Local and Subordinate Magistrates of 3rd Class exercising Criminal powers only ... Paid				3	1	Act X of 1872.	...	...	...	2	1					Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars.			283	...	...	...
Unpaid				40	1		...	3	6	19	13					Canal, Customs and Forest Department officers.			848	...	...	...
Local and Subordinate Magistrates of 3rd Class exercising Civil and Criminal powers Paid				72	1	Section 20 Act X of 1872, & Sections 5, 6 and 8 of Act XIX of 1865.	...	8	...	...	64					Sub-Collectors employed generally on administrative works, Superintendents of Abkari and Registration.			7,808	21,118	13,535	...
Unpaid				12	1		...	...	2	...	10					Honorary Magistrates.			1,303	2,980	23	...
Local and Subordinate Magistrates of 2nd Class exercising Criminal powers only ... Paid				2	1	Act X of 1872.	...	...	...	...	2					Tahsildars.			3	...	693	52
Unpaid				12	1		...	...	1	2	9					Canal, Customs and Forest Department Officers.			538	...	...	...
Local and Subordinate Magistrates of 2nd Class exercising Civil and Criminal powers Paid				116	1	Act X of 1872, and Sections 5, 6 and 8 of Act XIX of 1865.	...	2	...	1	112	Rs. 10,269.	Rs. 2,163.			Sub-Collectors, Superintendents of general administrative work and Registration.			19,829	36,492	43,497	...
Unpaid				21	1		...	...	...	2	21					Honorary Magistrates.			1,392	5,289	360	...
Small Cause Courts, confined to their proper functions ...				6	1	Act XI of 1865.	...	2	1	3	...					... ...			470	16,418	...	...

Small Cause Courts exercising also ordinary Civil and Criminal powers	10 Divisions containing 82 districts which are sub divided into 125 Tahsils, 16	17,61,160 according	9	1	Act XXII of 1864		1	6	2							The entire year Sundays and	4 063	7,330	617	850
Boards of Magistrates (Unpaid)			26	6	Act X of 1872					66		City Magistrates.				12 Barristers 26 Chief Court and 68 Subordinate Court	6 637	1 620		
Magistrates of 1st Class exercising Criminal powers only (do)			14	1	Do		6*	4	1	3		Superintendents of Jails and Honorary Magistrates					936	2 09o	187	77
Magistrates exercising Civil and Criminal powers — Paid			150	1	Act X of 1872, and Sections 10 and 11 of Act XIX of 1865 Deputy Commrs. hear appeals from the orders of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class Magistrates		48	37	16	56		Local Funds Municipal Nasul, Treasury Court of Wards, Road and Ferry funds, Registration Administrative charge of the district					27 747	42 729	62 692	9 742
Magistrates exercising Civil and Criminal powers — Unpaid			2	1						2							66	217		
Magistrates exercising enhanced powers under Section 36, Act X of 1872			29	1	Section 36 Act X of 1872		5	14	1			Deputy Commissioners					763	12	2,658	182
Sessions Courts			15	1, aided by 3 Assessors	Acts X of 1872 and XIX of 1865 also hear appeals from the orders of 1st Class Magistrates.		8	6	1			Superintendent of Revenue Administration, Civil and Sessions Judge, Appellate and Executive work					383		135	9 366
Chief Court			1	3 aided by a Jury of 9 men in Original Criminal Trials	Act IV of 1866		2		1			No Executive functions.						15		2 527
Total			605				85	73	4[illegible]	434							73,069	2,47 251	1 25 681	22 806

* Average number

No. 2.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCES REPORTED, AND OF PERSONS TRIED, COMMITTED AND ACQUITTED FOR EACH OFFENCE IN THE PUNJAB DURING THE YEAR 1876.

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	NON-BAILABLE.							
1	Concealing a design to commit a non-bailable offence...	118 to 120	3	8	2	4	...	2
2	Giving false evidence ...	194 to 196	7	16	6	9	...	1
3	Fabricating false evidence ...	194 to 196	1	3	3	...	...	...
4	Wilful omission of public servant to apprehend a convict ...	222	1	1	...	1	...	...
5	Resistance to lawful apprehension and rescue ...	225	2	4	1	3	...	...
6	Unlawful return from transportation ...	226	1	...	...	...	...	...
7	Violation of condition of remission of punishment ...	227	1	1	...	1	...	...
8	Counterfeiting coin ...	231 to 236	9	16	1	15	...	...
9	Passing or possessing bad or altered coin ...	239 to 243 and 250 to 254	146	171	72	95	...	4
10	Offences connected with the Mint ...	244, 245	1	...	...	...	...	...
11	Diminishing or altering coin ...	246 to 249	3	4	...	4	...	...
12	Murder by Thugs ...	302, 303, 396	4	2	...	2	...	...
13	Murder by Dacoits ...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
14	Murder by Robbers ...	...	9	12	...	12	...	...
15	Murder by poison for sake of robbery ...	...	5	14	3	11	...	...
16	Murder by poison from other motives ...	...	27	44	13	31	...	...
17	Other murders from motives connected with women ...	...	111	180	39	123	2	16
18	Other murders from other motives ...	...	153	224	59	153	...	12
19	Attempt to murder ...	307	70	67	25	39	...	3
20	Culpable homicide ...	304	234	219	54	157	1	7
21	Abetment of suicide ...	305, 306	15	15	14	1	...	...
22	Being a Thug ...	311	1	2	2	...	...	...
23	Causing miscarriage ...	313 to 316	7	17	7	10	...	...
24	Grievous hurt by dangerous weapons ...	326	40	92	30	55	...	7
25	Causing hurt or grievous hurt to extort property or confession or to constrain a person ...	327, 329, 331 and 333	3	6	1	5	...	...
26	Administering stupefying drugs ...	328	51	32	12	20	...	...
27	Assault in attempting theft from person ...	356	35	47	18	29	...	...
28	Kidnapping or abduction ...	363 to 365 & 367 to 369	186	194	113	64	4	13
29	Abducting a woman to compel marriage, or for defilement ...	366	58	93	70	20	3	...
30	Habitual dealing in slaves ...	371	2	3	1	2	...	...
31	Selling, letting, or unlawfully obtaining a woman for purposes of prostitution ...	372, 373	21	30	23	7	...	...
32	Rape ...	376	187	116	60	53	2	1
33	Unnatural offences ...	377	212	147	43	98	4	2

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	NON-BAILABLE—*continued.*							
34	Theft of cattle ...	379 to 381	2,915	2,309	642	1,621	17	29
35	Theft, ordinary ...	...	10,257	8,531	1,991	6,476	6	58
36	Theft after preparation for causing death or hurt or restraint of cattle ...	382	10	16	6	5	...	5
37	Theft after preparation for causing death or hurt, or restraint ordinary ...	382	19	31	15	15	1	...
38	Extortion by causing fear of death, or grievous hurt or accusation ...	386 to 389	9	7	5	2	...	...
39	Robbery in a dwelling house ...	392, 393	58	76	47	28	...	1
40	Robbery on the highway ...	...	83	63	28	29	...	6
41	Robbery elsewhere ...	...	96	65	28	37	...	...
42	Robbery with hurt or deadly weapon by poison or stupefying drugs ...	394, 397, 398	18	8	3	4	...	1
43	Robbery with hurt or deadly weapon by other means...	...	21	13	8	5	...	...
44	Dacoity ...	395, 398	39	34	11	19	3	1
45	Dacoity with grievous hurt ...	397	5	...	...	...	...	...
46	Preparation or assembly for dacoity ...	399, 402	4	6	2	4	...	...
47	Belonging to a gang of thieves ...	401	8	23	15	8	...	...
48	Criminal breach of trust ...	406 to 409	485	529	246	271	3	9
49	Dishonestly receiving stolen property ...	411 to 414	2,893	3,492	1,269	2,098	51	74
50	Sorcery, mischief by fire ...	436, 438	133	48	28	20	...	...
51	Mischief after preparation made for causing death or hurt ...	440	1	...	...	...	...	...
52	House trespass in order to the committing of theft ...	451	100	56	19	36	...	1
53	House-trespass in order to the committing of an offence punishable with death or transportation for life ...	449, 450	3	2	2	...	...	...
54	House-trespass having made preparation for causing hurt ...	452	5	7	5	2	...	...
55	Lurking house-trespass or house-breaking ...	453, 456	2,176	422	137	281	...	...
56	Lurking house-trespass or house-breaking in order to the committing of theft ...	454, 457	6,577	3,197	840	2,312	6	39
57	Lurking house-trespass or house-breaking in order to the committing of an offence other than theft ...	454, 457	501	284	150	132	1	1
58	Lurking house-trespass or house-breaking having made preparation for causing hurt ...	455, 458	30	41	24	16	...	1
59	Lurking house-trespass or house-breaking with attempt to cause death or grievous hurt ...	459, 460	23	32	17	9	...	6
60	Forgery or fraudulently using or possessing forged document ...	466 to 468, 472 to 477	55	113	56	44	1	12
61	Fraudulent and unlawful marriages ...	493, 495, 496	7	25	23	2	...	...
62	Circulating false rumours to disturb the public peace ...	505	18	23	9	14	...	...
63	Attempt to commit offences ...	511	15	18	10	8	...	...
64	Abetment of any offence ...	109	1	2	2	...	...	...

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	BAILABLE.							
65	Concealing a design to commit a bailable offence ...	119, 120	2	6	3	3	...	...
66	Personating a soldier ...	140	2	2	1	1	...	...
67	Being a member of, or joining an unlawful assembly ...	143 to 145, 151, 158	65	442	94	340	...	8
68	Rioting ...	147 to 149, 152, 153	534	4,867	1,201	3,584	4	78
69	Omission to prevent or give information of a riot ...	154 to 156	6	30	14	16	...	...
70	Affray ...	160	232	1,336	333	1,003	...	...
71	Bribery ...	161 to 165	187	243	174	62	1	6
72	Public servant disobeying a lawful direction with intent to cause injury ...	166	17	15	6	9	...	...
73	Do. framing an incorrect document with intent to cause injury ...	167	6	10	8	1	...	1
74	Do. unlawfully trading or buying property	168, 169	2	2	1	...	...	1
75	Personating a public servant ...	170, 171	20	19	3	16	...	...
76	Evading, disobeying or preventing service of summons	172 to 174	144	357	146	203	2	6
77	Omitting to produce a document ...	175	1	1	...	1	...	...
78	Omitting to give information ...	176	55	114	36	78	...	...
79	Giving false information ...	177, 182	482	595	212	375	1	7
80	Refusing oath, answer or signature when duly required	178 to 180	12	13	...	12	...	1
81	Making false statement on oath ...	181	13	15	6	7	1	1
82	Resistance to the lawful taking or selling of property	183, 184	191	377	180	184	...	13
83	Illegally bidding at sale ...	185	1	2	...	2	...	...
84	Obstructing or omitting to assist a public servant ...	186, 187	258	601	262	328	1	10
85	Disobedience to lawful order ...	188	300	717	255	444	1	17
86	Threatening a public servant with injury ...	189	3	6	...	4	...	2
87	Threatening with injury ...	190	16	32	10	22	...	...
88	Giving or using false evidence (simple) ...	193, 196	241	404	202	186	...	16
89	Fabricating false evidence, or using fabricated evidence (simple) ...	193, 196	58	95	38	52	1	4
90	Signing or using a false certificate ...	197, 198	5	6	4	2	...	...
91	Making or using a false declaration ...	199, 200	14	22	9	13	...	...
92	Screening an offender by causing disappearance of evidence, &c. ...	201	18	44	16	27	1	...
93	Omitting to give information of an offence ...	202	45	90	20	70	...	...
94	Giving false information respecting an offence ...	203	9	14	6	8	...	...
95	Secreting or destroying documentary evidence ...	204	8	16	16	...	...	...
96	False personation in judicial proceedings ...	205	25	46	8	38	...	...
97	Fraudulently claiming or removing property to prevent legal seizure ...	206, 207	20	38	28	8	...	2
98	Fraudulently suffering a decree ...	208	4	4	3	1	...	...
99	False claim ...	209	18	44	35	8	...	1
100	Fraudulently obtaining or executing a decree ...	210	25	22	13	9	...	...

No. 2.—*Continued.*

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	BAILABLE—*continued.*							
101	False charge of an offence ...	211	264	393	184	184	1	24
102	Harbouring an offender ...	212, 216	13	33	12	21	...	...
103	Taking gift to screen an offender ...	213 to 215	42	81	26	51	...	4
104	Public servant fraudulently defeating punishment or forfeiture ...	217, 218	9	14	9	5	...	...
105	Public servant wilfully making order or decision contrary to law ...	219, 220	3	3	2	1	...	...
106	Public servant omitting to apprehend or suffering to escape ...	221, 222	8	9	5	4	...	...
107	Public servant negligently suffering an escape ...	223	33	64	26	38	...	...
108	Resistance to lawful apprehension and rescue ...	224, 225 and 225 A.	97	158	53	103	1	1
109	Insulting a public servant during judicial proceedings	228	79	103	18	85	...	...
110	Using a counterfeit stamp as genuine ...	260	2	4	1	3	...	...
111	Using or preparing for use a stamp known to have been used before ...	261 to 263	28	36	19	14	...	3
112	Using, possessing, making or selling false weights or measures ...	264 to 267	124	176	67	108	...	1
113	Negligently or malignantly endangering human life ...	269 to 271, 279, 280, 282, 284 to 289	173	339	80	259	...	...
114	Adulterating or selling adulterated food ...	272, 273	105	171	41	130	...	...
115	Adulterating or selling adulterated drugs ...	274, 275	13	22	6	16	...	...
116	Knowingly selling one drug as another ...	276	2	2	2	...	...	...
117	Defiling the water of a public reservoir ...	277	32	88	28	60	...	...
118	Making atmosphere noxious to health ...	278	17	136	4	132	...	...
119	Keeping a lottery office ...	294 A	1	1	1	...	...	...
120	Obstructing a public way ...	283	34	179	15	164	...	...
121	Committing nuisance ...	290, 291	223	953	197	729	...	27
122	Selling or possessing obscene books ...	292, 293	2	2	...	2	...	...
123	Obscene songs ...	294	22	48	20	28	...	...
124	Religious insult ...	295, 297, 298	94	200	130	40	...	...
125	Disturbing religious assembly ...	296	1	3	3	...	...	...
126	Causing death by rash or negligent act ...	304 A	48	51	18	30	...	3
127	Attempt to commit culpable homicide ...	308	5	7	2	1	...	4
128	Attempt to commit suicide ...	309	208	171	52	117	2	...
129	Causing miscarriage (simple) ...	312	27	46	23	23	...	...
130	Exposing and abandoning a child ...	317	36	28	11	16	1	...
131	Concealment of birth ...	318	28	39	12	27	...	...
132	Causing hurt ...	323, 334	2,760	6,148	3,414	2,697	...	37
133	Causing hurt by dangerous weapons ...	324	112	167	54	112	1	...
134	Causing hurt to extort confession, &c. ...	330, 332	17	19	10	9	...	...
135	Grievous hurt ...	325	530	745	221	512	2	10
136	Grievous hurt on grave and sudden provocation ...	335	41	56	8	46	...	2

No. 2.—*Continued.*

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	BAILABLE—*concluded.*							
137	Doing any act which endangers human safety ..	336, 337	24	32	14	18	...	...
138	Causing grievous hurt by an act which endangers human safety ...	338	8	17	7	10	...	...
139	Wrongful restraint ...	341	418	890	703	180	...	7
140	Wrongful confinement ...	342 to 346	206	399	267	118	...	8
141	Wrongful confinement to extort property or confession	347, 348	23	23	15	8	...	...
142	Assault or use of criminal force ...	352 to 355, 357, 358	16,546	38,012	31,034	6,700	6	303
143	Buying or disposing of any person as a slave ...	370	7	5	5	...	...	...
144	Unlawful compulsory labor ...	374	5	10	10	...	...	...
145	Extortion ...	384, 385	195	332	269	44	...	19
146	Dishonest misappropriation ..	403, 404	455	673	249	404	...	20
147	Cheating ..	417 to 420	522	906	576	304	6	20
148	Fraudulent disposition of property ..	421, 422, 424	11	12	8	4	...	
149	Executing a deed containing false statement of consideration ...	423	12	19	13	6	...	...
150	Mischief, ordinary ...	426, 427, 430 to 433	1,867	4,506	2,798	1,630	...	78
151	Mischief by poisoning or killing cattle	428, 429	612	674	286	275	...	13
152	Mischief by destroying land marks ..	434	74	186	90	95	...	1
153	Mischief by fire ..	435	127	74	59	15	...	...
154	Criminal trespass ...	447	979	1,955	1,295	626	...	34
155	House-trespass (simple) ...	448	476	658	336	312		10
156	House-trespass in order to commit an offence (other than theft) punishable with imprisonment ...	451	27	24	8	15	...	1
157	Dishonestly opening a closed receptacle ..	461 462	13	9	2	7	...	...
158	Forgery (simple) ...	465, 469, 471	86	149	98	41	..	10
159	Making or using false trade or property mark ..	482 to 484, 486 to 488	9	12	12	...	..	...
160	Removing or destroying a property mark	489	7	10	5	5	...	...
161	Criminal breaches of contract of service ...	490 to 492	34	63	45	17	...	1
162	Bigamy ...	494	79	203	186	15	...	2
163	Adultery ..	497	146	186	137	47	...	2
164	Enticing away a married woman ...	498	3,112	4,285	3,496	686	6	97
165	Defamation ...	500 to 502	201	365	291	62	5	7
166	Insult ...	504, 509	294	489	356	131	...	2
167	Criminal intimidation ...	506 to 508	40	73	52	19	...	2
168	Being drunk and disorderly ...	510	7	7	1	6	...	..
	SPECIAL AND LOCAL LAWS AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE,							
169	Contempts and disobedience of orders ...	435, 436 C. P. C.	147	171	15	156	...	...
170	Frivolous or vexatious complaints ...	209 "	607	691	1	690	...	...
171	Recognizance to keep the peace ...	489 "	867	3,598	770	2,817	...	11

No. 2.—*Continued.*

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	SPECIAL AND LOCAL LAWS AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE—*continued.*							
172	Security to keep the peace ...	490 C. P. C.	1,411	5,232	1,469	3,743	...	21
173	Lurking without ostensible means of subsistence ...	Chap. XXXVIII C. P. C.	238	298	72	218	2	6
174	Bad livelihood ...	„ „	53,75	6,141	1,070	5,025	12	31
175	Local nuisance ...	„ XXXIX	407	732	658	6	...	68
176	Maintenance of wives and children ...	„ XLI	2,109	2,237	1,776	419	3	45
177	Disputes relating to possession of land ...	„ XL	100	274	259	15	...	...
178	Breach of the laws relating to excise on Spirits and Drugs ...	Acts XVI of 1868 and X of 1871.	390	784	217	565	...	2
179	Breach of the laws relating to Opium ...	Acts X of 1871, and XXVI of 1872,	212	312	66	240	1	5
180	Breach of the laws relating to Saltpetre ...	Acts XXI of 1861, XIV of 1843 and XXXVI of 1855,	129	220	31	172	...	17
181	Breach of the laws relating to Customs ...	...	132	247	38	200	...	...
182	Breach of the laws relating to Stamps ...	Act XVIII of 1869,	203	362	152	393	1	16
183	Breach of the laws relating to Post Office ...	Act XIV of 1866	24	35	13	22	...	...
184	Breach of the laws relating to Prisons ...	„ XXVI of 1870	58	102	30	72	...	...
185	Breach of the laws relating to Forests ...	...	572	2,338	344	1,981	...	13
186	Breach of the laws relating to Ferries ...	...	34	67	19	48	...	...
187	Breach of the laws relating to Canals ...	...	458	1,505	239	1,260	...	...
188	Ditto ditto to Railways ...	Acts XVIII of 1854, XIII of 1870 and XXV of 1871,	143	200	49	145	...	6
189	Ditto ditto to Stage Coaches ...	Act XVI of 1861,	10	22	6	10	...	...
190	Ditto ditto to Printing Presses ...	Act XXV of 1867,	2	7	6	1	...	...
191	Ditto ditto to Gaming ...	„ III of 1867	189	922	204	702	...	16
192	Ditto ditto to wandering and dangerous lunatics ...	„ XXXVI of 1858,	8	8	3	...	...	...
193	Ditto ditto to Cattle Trespass ...	„ I of 1871,	390	2,576	1,749	799	...	28
194	Ditto ditto to Arms ...	„ XXXI of 1860 and VI of 1866	124	164	55	106	3	...
195	Ditto ditto to Emigration ...	„ VII of 1871,	1	5	4	...	...	...
196	Ditto ditto to Apprentices ...	„ XIX of 1850,	4	4	2	2	...	...
197	Ditto ditto to Cantonments ...	„ XXII of 1864,	3,422	5,548	604	4,943	1	...
198	Ditto ditto to Chaukidars ...	„ XX of 1856,	17	24	3	21	...	...
199	Ditto ditto to Village Watchmen ...	...	2	3	2	1	...	...
200	Ditto ditto to Track laws (Local Rules) ...	„ IV of 1872,	66	156	39	112	4	1
201	Ditto ditto to Nuisances ...	Sec. 34 Act V of 1861,	3,400	4,916	473	4,443	...	...
202	Ditto ditto Breach of Police Act by Police officers ...	Act V of 1861,	477	1,649	92	1,556		1
203	Ditto ditto to Other offences punishable under ...	Ditto,	666	1,722	159	1,563		...
204	Ditto ditto to Nuisances under Punjab Municipal Act ...	Act IV of 1873,	3,022	5,867	974	4,885	7	24

No. 2.—*Concluded.*

Number.	Nomenclature of Offences.	Number of Section of Indian Penal Code or other Penal Law applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Number of persons acquitted and discharged.	Number of persons convicted and committed.	Died, escaped, or transferred	Remaining under trial at the end of the year.
	SPECIAL AND LOCAL LAWS AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE—*concluded.*							
205	Breach of laws relating to other offences under Punjab Municipal Act	Act IV of 1873,	73	193	15	178	...	...
206	Ditto ditto to purchasing soldiers' necessaries, stores, &c., and other offences under the Mutiny Act and ...	„ VII of 1867,	2	2	...	2	...	...
207	Ditto ditto to breaches of contract by artificers and workmen ...	„ XIII of 1859,	278	363	349	13	...	1
208	Ditto ditto to ditto by workmen on railways and other public works ...	„ IX of 1860,	13	28	21	7	...	...
209	Ditto ditto to European Vagrancy ...	„ IX of 1874,	2	2	...	2	...	...
210	Ditto ditto to Registration ...	„ VIII of 1871,	3	3	3	....	...	...
211	Ditto ditto to Criminal Tribes and Eunuchs	„ XXVII of 1871,	215	301	42	258	4	...
212	Ditto ditto to Rules under Punjab Laws Act	„ IV of 1872,	1,041	1,178	85	1,080	...	10
213	Ditto ditto to Pleaders ...	„ XX of 1865,	1	1	...	1	...	...
214	Ditto ditto to Prostitutes ...	„ XXII of 1864,	6	10	4	6	...	...
215	Payment of penalty by accused ...	Section 386, C. P. Code,	7	10	3	7	...	...
216	Payment of penalty by sureties ...	„ 397 „	68	165	21	144	...	...
217	Recovery of penalty from principal ...	„ 502 „	8	11	3	8	...	...
218	Do. do. from sureties ...	„ 514 „	52	52	7	45	...	...
219	Frontier Regulation I of 1872, Section 3 ...	...	11	15	...	15	...	...
220	Do. do. do. Section 4 ...	..	27	39	...	39	...	...
221	Do. do. do. Section 8 ...	...	54	51	23	28	...	...
222	Do. do. IV of 1873, Section 2 ...	...	495	1,165	617	519	...	29

IMPERIAL RETURN.

No. 3.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE GENERAL RESULT OF CRIMINAL TRIALS IN THE TRIBUNALS OF VARIOUS CLASSES IN THE PROVINCE OF THE PUNJAB IN THE YEAR 1876.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Number of persons dealt with							Persons disposed of.									
CLASS OF TRIBUNALS.	Remaining at end of last year.	*Brought to trial during the year*				Received by transfer.	Total.	Discharged without trial	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Committed or referred	Died, escaped or transferred	Total.	Remaining at end of the year.	Average number of days during which each case lasted	No of witnesses who attended.	Remarks.
		Under arrest by Police.	Upon warrant.	On summons.	Voluntarily.												
Unpaid Magistrates	85	5,563	843	15,824	1,005	...	23 120	7,778	3.284	12,185	13	20	23,280	40	6	23,164	
Paid Magistrates with local jurisdiction ...	460	27,028	2,223	37,705	3,556	7	70,979	25,207	8,023	36,908	125	28	70.373	606	7	72,271	
Paid Magts first, second and third Class Magistrates exercising jurisdiction throughout the district	836	22,088	4,845	19,516	1,819	28	49 132	17,448	5,782	24 353	504	81	48.286	846	11	72,774	
Chief Magistrates of districts	178	3,596	335	1,197	213	3	5,522	1 259	550	3,515	61	50	5,435	87	6	6 982	
TOTAL MAGISTRACY ...	1,559	58,275	8,246	74,242	6,593	38	1,48 953	51,892	17 649	76 961	703	179	1,47,374	1,579	7	1,75,191	
Sessions Courts. Deputy Commissioners under Section 36, Act X of 1872 ...	31	1,090	169	56	24	...	1,370	292	182	875	3	4	1,356	14	13	4 680	
Sessions Courts. Commissioners ..	91	745	...	..	...	4	840	...	272	360	97	7	736	104	50	4,207	
TOTAL ...	122	1,835	169	56	24	4	2,210	292	454	1,235	100	11	2,092	118	31	8 887	
Chief Court	..		...		...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	...	...	...	...	
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,681	60,110	8,415	74,298	6,617	42	1,51,163	52,184	18.093	78,196	803	190	1,49,466	1,697	19	1.84,078	

IMPERIAL RETURN. No. 4.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE PUNISHMENTS INFLICTED BY THE VARIOUS CLASSES OF CRIMINAL TRIBUNALS IN THE PUNJAB DURING THE YEAR 1876.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
	PERSONS SENTENCED TO												PERSONS ORDERED TO FIND OR GIVE.			DETAIL OF PUNISHMENTS.																					
		TRANSPORTATION			IMPRISONMENT.				FINE.		WHIPPING					FINE.									IMPRISONMENT.											WHIPPING.		
					Rigorous.																				One month.		Six months.		Two years		Seven years.		Above 7 years				
CLASS OF CRIMINAL TRIBUNALS.	Death.	For life	For a term.	Penal servitude.	With solitary confinement.	Without solitary confinement.	Simple.	Forfeiture of property.	With imprisonment.	Without imprisonment.	In addition to other punishment.	In lieu of other punishment.	Sureties of the peace.	Recognizance.	Sureties for good behaviour	Rs. 10 and under	Rs. 50	Rs. 100.	Rs. 500.	Rs. 1,000.	Above Rs. 1,000.	Total amount of fines	Amount realized.	Amount paid by way of compensation.	Rigorous.	Simple	Rigorous.	Simple.	Rigorous.	Simple	Rigorous.	Simple.	Rigorous.	Simple.	Ten stripes and under.	Twenty stripes and under.	Thirty stripes and under.
Unpaid Magistrates ..	..	..	..	..	246	575	55	..	531	10,823	7	70	5	20	345	10,570	726	52	6	..	..	41,181	32,238	2,533	242	46	425	9	148	..	..	..	..	..	31	32	14
Paid Magistrates with local jurisdiction ..	..	..	..	..	1,692	3,170	217	..	3,667	28,433	84	1,164	705	314	725	28,274	3,826	178	29	2	..	1,67,167	1,44,318	13,053	1,652	135	2,763	81	447	1	..	..	..	..	344	578	326
Paid first, 2nd and 3rd class Magistrates exercising jurisdiction throughout the district ..	..	..	..	..	3,438	2,618	226	..	4,219	8,431	171	1,075	1,991	3,051	3,025	7,907	4,241	355	142	5	..	2,13,309	1,13,921	16,275	339	125	2,337	87	2,882	14	8	..	..	..	267	578	401
Chief Magistrate of the district ..	..	..	..	..	536	447	39	..	539	1,200	62	175	249	271	925	874	647	161	70	7	..	58,673	27,496	12,216	128	29	385	2	584	1	6	..	..	..	38	104	95
TOTAL MAGISTRACY ..	..	..	..	..	5,908	6,810	537	..	9,176	48,887	324	2,484	2,880	3,656	5,020	47,625	9,440	746	238	14	..	4,95,327	3,17,973	44,077	2,849	335	5,796	180	4,061	16	18	..	..	..	680	1,292	836
Session's Courts. Deputy Commissioners under Section 36, Act X of 1872 ..	..	..	6	..	637	134	10	14	504	72	53	19	..	..	..	86	327	116	44	..	3	37,676	9,925	5,178	12	7	75	1	207	..	476	2	1	..	1	23	49
Session's Courts. Commissioners ..	97	88	16	..	105	132	5	17	142	11	..	2	19	4	8	10	98	19	23	2	1	14,497	2,092	694	8	2	28	2	74	..	109	..	27	..	..	2	1
TOTAL ..	97	88	22	..	742	266	15	31	646	83	53	22	19	4	8	96	425	135	67	2	4	52,173	12,017	5,872	20	9	101	4	281	..	585	2	21	..	1	24	59
Chief Court ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
GRAND TOTAL ..	97	88	22	..	6,648	7,076	552	31	9,822	48,970	377	2,506	2,899	3,660	5,028	47,721	9,865	881	305	16	4	5,47,700	3,29,990	50,244	2,869	344	5,891	190	4,342	16	691	2	21	..	681	1,316	886

IMPERIAL RETURN.

No. 5.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE RESULT OF APPEAL AND REVISION IN CRIMINAL CASES IN THE PROVINCE OF THE PUNJAB DURING THE YEAR 1876.

1	2.	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Tribunals.	Number of persons or appellants applying for revision under Section 297, Cr. P. Code.	Number of Persons.								Remarks.
		Appeals or applications rejected.	Sentences confirmed.	Sentences modified and enhanced.	Sentences reversed.	Proceedings quashed.	Further evidence or enquiry ordered.	Pending.	Cases referred for revision to Chief Court.	
Magistrate of District. Appeals from Unpaid Magistrates	...	76	227	68	169	3	12	8	6	
Appeals from Paid Magistrates	...	331	1,657	545	685	10	153	42	66	
TOTAL ...	...	407	1,884	613	854	13	167	50	72	
Sessions Court. Appeals from Unpaid Magistrates	...	1	22	4	1	...	....	.	...	
Appeals from Paid Magistrates	...	208	2,208	265	465	8	76	108	30	
TOTAL ...	...	209	2,230	269	466	8	76	108	30	
Chief Court. Appeals ...	...	46	465	50	101	2	5	50	...	
Revisions ...	1,490	588	345	120	268	106	...	95	32	
TOTAL ...	1,490	634	810	170	369	108	5	145	32	
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,490	1,250	4,924	1,052	1,689	129	248	303	134	

T. RETURN.

No. 11.

STATEMENT SHOWING USE OF JURIES AND ASSESSORS IN THE CRIMINAL COURTS OF THE PROVINCE OF THE PUNJAB IN THE YEAR 1876.

1	2	3	4	5		6		7
				Jury trials.		Assessors' trials.		
Courts.	Established or average number of Jury or Assessors in each case, and prescribed qualifications.	Number of cases tried by Jury.	Number of cases with Assessors.	Cases in which Judge approved of verdict.	Cases in which Judge did not approve of verdict.	Cases in which Judge agreed with Assessors.	Cases in which Judge differed from Assessors.	Note showing in what class of cases Juries and Assessors have been principally employed.
Chief Court ...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Commissioners' Sessions Courts.								In all Sessions Trials.
Dehli ...	3	...	21	...	...	19	2	
Hissár ...	3		12	...	...	9	3	
Umballa ...	3	...	29	...	...	28	1	
Jullundur ...	3	...	39	...	...	38	1	
Amritsar ...	3	...	30	...	...	27	3	
Lahore ...	4	...	28	...	...	22	6	
Rawalpindi ...	3	...	44	...	...	38	6	
Mooltan ...	3	...	20	...	...	20	...	
Deraját ...	3	...	53	...	...	44	9	
Pesháwar ...	2	...	91	...	...	*89	2	
Total ...	3	...	367	...	...	334	33	

In 2 cases the Assessors were not called on to give their opinion.

Proceedings of the Honorable the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, in the Home Department, No. 3162, dated 9th August 1877.

READ—

Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice for the year 1876, furnished by the Registrar, Chief Court.

THE report, which is dated 13th April 1877, has been submitted with promptitude, and shows good results.

2. In accordance with the usual practice, the Lieutenant-Governor will not here review the number and nature of offences committed and brought to trial, as the state of crime can be more conveniently considered in connection with the report of the Inspector-General of Police. But with reference to the subject of forest offences, the great apparent increase in which was noted in last year's review, it has been explained that this was in reality nominal, being due to a change in procedure in the Kángra district, where offences, tried in previous years under the Indian Penal Code, were treated in 1875 as breaches of Forest Rules; and His Honor is glad to be assured that the statistics do not warrant the inference of any undue severity in punishing offences of this description. The increase of bailable offences in the Bannu district is attributed to excitement among the agricultural population, consequent on the approaching close of settlement operations. This explanation is not very intelligible, and it is requested that the Commissioner of the Division may be called on for a further report.

3. The general results of criminal trials in courts of original jurisdiction do not materially differ from those shewn in 1875, though it is observed that the provincial percentage of convictions has fallen from 55 to 52. The average duration of cases disposed of in Magistrates' courts (including cases under Section 36 of the Criminal Procedure Code) is eight days as in the two previous years, and testifies to a creditable despatch of business. In the report of 1875 the proportion was given of the persons brought to trial to the population of each division, and it was remarked by the Lieutenant-Governor that if this comparison included bailable offences, the facts displayed were of too general a nature to serve as the basis of any conclusions. It appears, from separate correspondence, that both bailable and non-bailable offences were taken into view. But the table furnished in paragraph 48 of the present report has reference to trials for non-bailable offences only, and is thus a useful criterion of the extent of crime in the Punjab; for whilst bailable offences comprise the numerous petty charges brought before Boards of Honorary Magistrates and Cantonment Magistrates, as well as wrongs which are either closely related to or identical with civil injuries, and are thus no test of actual criminality, the true index of the efficacy of criminal justice is, of course, the amount of heinous crime. It is satisfactory to note that in 1876 the proportion of persons tried for non-bailable offences varied from 1·8 per 1,000 in the Deraját and Mooltán Divisions, to 0·7 per 1,000 in the Jullundur Division. The amount of serious crime is therefore very small in comparison with the population.

4. The most important point in connection with the agency for the disposal of criminal work is the increase in the proportion of criminal cases decided by Tahsíldárs, such proportion having risen from 22·8 per cent. in 1874 to 27·7 per cent. in 1876. The Judges of the Chief Court, adverting to the remarks in last year's review, have stated their opinion on this subject in a letter, No. 2715, dated 21st November 1876, and have further alluded to it in the report under notice. They do not expect the action of the new judicial scheme to affect the proportion of criminal work performed by Tahsíldárs in any marked degree, though it is admitted that the determination ordinarily to confer no judicial powers upon Naib Tahsíldárs will ultimately reduce the amount of criminal work at the tahsíls by diminishing the number of officers qualified to dispose of it. On the other hand, it is urged that the Tahsíldárs, having been relieved of almost all their civil work by the appointment of the Munsiffs, have therefore more time to devote to criminal work, and it is thus anticipated that the proportion of criminal work disposed of by tahsíl agency will remain much

the same as before, especially, as that class of criminal work has consisted and should consist mainly of the lighter offences. Accordingly, it does not appear to the Judges to be undesirable that a considerable share of the less serious crime of a district should be disposed of by the Tahsíldárs: provided that such classes of cases are left for disposal to these officers, as can adequately be dealt with by them; and this principle, the Judges believe, is carefully borne in mind by the majority of District Officers when distributing criminal work.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets to find himself unable to accept this view in its integrity. He acknowledges the correctness of the principle that when tahsíl agency is employed it should be directed to the disposal of the lighter offences, but he remarks that Tahsíldárs were formerly overburdened with civil judicial work, and that one object of the new judicial arrangements was to give officers of this class more time for their executive duties, an object which will be frustrated if more criminal work is thrown upon them. It seems scarcely to be the fact that the change in the judicial organization has been without a definite effect on the amount of criminal business allotted to Tahsíldárs. On the contrary, this amount, from whatever cause, shows an unquestionable tendency to increase, and as the Lieutenant-Governor thinks it very undesirable that the time of Tahsíldárs should be occupied with much judicial business of either description, he would suggest to the Chief Court that measures should be taken to prevent such officers being employed too largely in the administration of criminal justice.

6. The report contains further statistics which point to the conclusion that the distribution of criminal business amongst the various courts should receive very careful attention. The powers which are exercised by District Officers in this respect are very wide; there is, in His Honor's opinion, no reason to curtail them, and he believes with the Judges of the Chief Court that their exercise in the majority of instances is judicious and beneficial. The facts, however, are that there is an absolute increase in the number of cases made over to the tahsíls, that there is a fall,—partly due no doubt, to the large number of Tahsíldárs' cases,—in appeals to courts of session, and that several Commissioners have remarked that whilst the enhanced powers of Deputy Commissioners under Section 36 of the Code of Criminal Procedure are not always so freely exercised as they should be, the Commissioners' courts thus being unduly burthened, other cases are left to subordinate Magistrates which would more appropriately have been dealt with by the Magistrate of the district himself. These results are not unmixed, the relief afforded to courts of session in the matter of petty criminal appeals being in itself free from objection if unaccompanied by over-pressure in the tahsíl agency. The Lieutenant-Governor refrains from drawing any further inferences; but he concurs with the Judges in thinking that the remarks of the Commissioners appear to be supported by the statistics presented, and he commends the facts above summarized to the careful consideration of all District Officers.

7. His Honor remarks with pleasure that Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners continue to speak favorably of the work and popularity of the Boards of unpaid Magistrates. The Lieutenant-Governor wishes that on future occasions the Boards and the Honorary Magistrates who deserve commendation may be noticed particularly. It is important to keep up a good tone in these courts and to take care that no abuse of power occurs. Still the Lieutenant-Governor considers it desirable that Boards of Magistrates should exercise the power of summary trial more largely than heretofore, especially as in many instances full records have been kept in cases which might have been tried summarily, and, as it is stated, that the only Board which exercises the power in question is that of Honorary Magistrates for the city of Amritsar. In connection with the subject of summary trial, and in advertence to paragraph 59 of the report, it is observed that the classification of these cases still seems faulty.

8. With reference to the original work of courts of session, it is noted that there were 47 cases in which 101 persons were involved, pending at the end of the year, as against 37 cases relating to 91 persons, at the end of 1875; but it is remarked with satisfaction that the average duration of sessions trials

decreased from 58 days to 50, and that none of the pending cases were of very old date.

9. The subject of dieting witnesses has been commented upon in former years, and the Judges have renewed their instructions to District Officers in this matter during the year reported on. The variations, however, in the amounts expended, and in the number of witnesses dieted being still very marked, show that continued attention in this respect is required in order to secure the desirable uniformity of practice which is obviously as yet unattained.

10. The percentage of increase in appeals from the orders of second and third class Magistrates ranges between 13 and 44 in the Gúrdáspur, Umballa and Ráwalpindi districts; whilst in Hoshiárpur and Jullundur there is a marked decrease in the number of appeals to the Magistrate of the district. These high proportions are not accounted for, an omission which the Lieutenant-Governor thinks should be supplied. He would wish at the same time to know how far the increase or decrease in each district referred to is accompanied by a simultaneous variation in the amount of work performed by Tahsíldárs.

11. Turning to the chapter on punishments, a slight discrepancy is noticed between the table in paragraph 83 and column 9 of Imperial Return No. IV. It would appear that the forfeitures of property inflicted by Deputy Commissioners in the exercise of their enhanced powers have been shown in the body of the report as due to sentences of the courts of Magistrates. As regards fines, the principle that the fine imposed shall be reasonable in amount with reference to the circumstances of the person fined is, of course, as unexceptionable as it is well established; but the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that the circumstances of such persons vary so considerably that it may be questionable whether the tendency of the 93rd paragraph of the report to bestow praise in cases where fines have been low merits complete approval. The justice of a fine does not depend on its absolute amount, but upon its relative suitability to the character of the offence and the circumstances of the offender, and particular cases differ in these respects so widely that it might be prudent to avoid any direct encouragement to either a high rate or a low rate of fine as such. At the same time His Honor is glad to observe an improvement in the percentage of realization. The remark of the Deputy Commissioner of Jullundur, that he has found it not uncommon for some Native Magistrates to impose in petty offences an excessive fine, and in default, a term of imprisonment far heavier than they would have thought of imposing had they awarded imprisonment in the first instance as the original sentence, appears to the Lieutenant-Governor to be very vague, and he thinks it would be more satisfactory if the Deputy Commissioner admonished the Magistrates whose judgment he considers faulty, and prevented a recurrence of the error.

12. Some useful remarks are made in the 100th paragraph of the report upon the circumstances under which the assistance of the criminal courts is most often asked for on insufficient grounds, such as in petty cases of assault, simple hurt, and wrongful restraint, when the object is to gratify spite by false or exaggerated representations, and in cases like trespass and enticing away a married woman, when the aim is to obtain redress for a civil wrong without the expense of civil process. His Honor concurs with the Judges in thinking that the generally low percentage of convictions in such cases warrants the conclusion that preliminary examinations are frequently too superficial, and that compensation for frivolous complaint is not awarded as often as it should be. In these respects an improvement is desirable. The figures from which this conclusion is drawn are given in Part I. B. of the Report, and not in Part III., as stated.

13. It is remarked with satisfaction that the treatment of habitual offenders and of persons previously convicted continues to receive attention, as also that the decrease in the proportion of sentences of imprisonment for periods of two years and upwards is attributable to the fact of fewer heavy punishments being needed in 1876 than in 1875.

14. Some peculiarities in the statistics of cases disposed of under the Frontier Regulations were noticed in last year's review, and on these His Honor has not yet been favoured with any observations of the Judges. The classification now adopted is certainly an improvement on that previously followed. References to councils of elders have been most frequent in the Pesháwar and Kohát districts, but this procedure has been very seldom adopted in the two southern districts of the Deraját. Resort has been had to deportation under Section 4 of Regulation I. of 1872 in the Pesháwar district only. Eleven villages, all in the Pesháwar Division, have been fined for the suppression of evidence or harbouring criminals as against four, all in the Kohat district, in the previous year.

15. The thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor are due to the Judges of the Chief Court for their supervision of the criminal administration during the year under review. In particular, he is glad to observe that the practice of inspectional tours is maintained, and that subordinate courts were inspected by the Senior Judges in seven districts.

ORDER.—Ordered, that copy of the foregoing remarks be forwarded to the Registrar of the Chief Court for the information of the Judges, and for annexure to and circulation with the Report.

Ordered also that copy be printed and published in the *Punjab Government Gazette*.

By order of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor.

LEPEL GRIFFIN,

Officiating Secretary to Government, Punjab.

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